

THE
ADVENTURES
OF A
JESUIT:

INTERSPERSED WITH

Several Remarkable Characters, and Scenes in
Real Life.

—SUNT HIC ETIAM SUA PRÆMIA LAUDI.
VIRG. ÆN. I.

VOLUME THE SECOND.



L O N D O N:

PRINTED BY GEORGE BIGG,
FOR G. RILEY, (SUCCESSOR TO MR. COOKE) AT
HIS CIRCULATING LIBRARY IN QUEEN-
STREET, BERKLEY-SQUARE.

MDCCLXXI.

THE
ADVENTURES
OF A
JESUIT

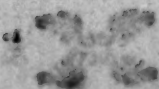
INTERESTED WITH

Several Remarkable Characters, and Scenes in
Real Life.

—SUNT HIC ETIAM VIA PRIMA LAMPA
VING. AN. I.



VOLUME SECOND.



L O N D O N :

PRINTED BY GEORGE NICOL,

FOR G. NICHOL, (SUCCESSOR TO MR. COOK) AT
HIS CIRCULATING LIBRARY IN QUEEN
STREET, BARNET-ROAD.

MDCCLXXII.

THE
ADVENTURES
OF A
JESUIT.

CHAP. I.

*Reflexions on the Love of one's Country, and the
Strength of National Prejudice in some Men.
Gaspar's adieu to Spain, he takes Skipping
for the Gallic dominions.*

THERE is nothing more laudable,
undoubtedly than the love of one's
native country, because nothing has pro-
duced more elevated instances of heroic
greatness than this principle, which yet,
however praise worthy it is, must be
owned to take its rise from prejudice, and
to be the offspring of a partial attach-
ment to one peculiar spot of land, one

VOL II.

B

particular

particular set of men, that we are acquainted with, in preference to a variety of others, of which to say the truth, we can never be competent judges, till by our own experience, or that of others, we have fully examined and compared their respective merits with those of the darling objects we adore. For the greater part of mankind, it is very apparent, neither have the leisure nor abilities to make such an examination, and yet it will be found that these, in general, are the men in whom this principle is most prevailing. Attached to a certain set of manners and customs from their birth, they dread worse than death to change them; and having never known any country but their own, that must necessarily appear the best in the world to them, because it is the only one they are acquainted with. This love for their country, whilst it has occasioned some men to do noble deeds, has caused others to commit wild extravagances. There is no light without its shade, no good without its inconvenience. Nothing is bad, but as far as it is practised to excess, or attended with accidental evils

evils which defeat the promised end; or, in short, when the abuse of it is greater than its use. This affection for a peculiar climate, is not free from many absurdities; yet to point them out were but a thankless task, since we find them, together with their first principle, every day decreasing. We live in an age, thank Heaven! in which there is no great danger of its excess. The prevalence of self-love, will sufficiently prevent its mad enthusiasm, and may be used as a comfortable antidote against its very worst effects. Having premised thus much, we will now resume the thread of our history.

Gaspar and his guide continued their journey without meeting with any thing worth our relating here, till he reached the extremity of his native country; and indeed there was little reason to expect any, since they had it in charge from their principal, to travel with all possible expedition, till they should arrive at the seaside. Having passed to the nearest port, father Gonsalvo reined back his horse, and from the summit of an eminence, survey-

ed the realms he had left behind him, and those which he was entering upon, and demanded of Gaspar, whether he did not feel some reluctance at quitting his own country to enter upon a strange one, of which he could have but a very imperfect knowledge? to which our hero made him this very pertinent and serious reply.

“ I do not wonder, father, that you
 “ should entertain a doubt of this nature :
 “ the prejudices of mankind in this point
 “ are so notorious. But for my own part,
 “ ever since I have been able to reflect and
 “ to compare ideas, I have considered all
 “ these local prejudices as mere absurdities,
 “ and only so many impediments to a
 “ man’s happiness, and bars in his way to
 “ advancement. It is true, custom and
 “ education familiarize a person generally
 “ to one spot ; his kindred, friends, and
 “ acquaintance, contribute still farther to
 “ render the place dear to him : while he
 “ is surrounded by these, it is no wonder
 “ that he continues delighted with it, and
 “ thinks that a cruel sentence which di-
 “ vides him from what he holds most
 “ dear.

" dear. But what has all this to do with
 " my circumstances ? For a man like me,
 " who has no friends, no kindred to part
 " from ; who, as already I have declared
 " to the college, am even unacquainted
 " with those to whom I owe my being ;
 " what signifies it to such an one, in what
 " place he resides, or whither his duty calls
 " him ? I call Heaven to witness, that it
 " is a matter of indifference to me, whi-
 " ther I am sent. I have now no bonds,
 " no ties upon me ; I have renounced all
 " private connexions, and acknowledge no
 " other society than with the holy fathers
 " of our order ; whose members, I doubt
 " not but I shall find very numerous
 " wherever we bend our course, since they
 " have spread themselves so successfully
 " over the peopled earth."

" Your sentiments, my dear compa-
 " nion," returned father Gonsalvo, " are
 " extremely just, and your conclusions in
 " general, very decisive. Only, as to what
 " you last said, that though it be most true
 " that our sacred order, that plant of Loy-
 " ola, raised as it were from a grain of

“ mustard-feed, has spread its lofty bran-
 “ ches over great part of the habitable
 “ world; though Pegu and Siam, and
 “ the Ethiop Line have known us, tho’
 “ America has confessed us on her farthest
 “ shores; yet, Gaspar, I would not have
 “ you forget, that there are in being whole
 “ nations of worse savages than those;—of
 “ heretics, who rebel against our holy
 “ church, and persecute her servants. A-
 “ mong these, it is not impossible but our
 “ sovereign Pontiff, whose will we are all
 “ bound to obey, may one day send us;
 “ and then, my friend, will come the trial:
 “ then we shall be obliged to put off this
 “ our habit, not for our own convenience
 “ only, but for the security of us and of our
 “ mission: then we shall be so far from
 “ enjoying the open society of our bre-
 “ thren, that we must meet them only by
 “ stealth, and serve our pious cause by
 “ subtle wit and deep-laid stratagems. It is
 “ for this, that the sons of Ignatius are so
 “ assiduous to chuse men of constancy and
 “ of discretion, firm to bear, and ready to
 “ extricate themselves from embarrass-
 “ ments,

" ments, serving thereby the church,
 " themselves, and us. As such an one,
 " they have made choice of you; and if I
 " presage aright, you will not shame their
 " election; such is my confidence in your
 " early merit."

To this speech, Gaspar made no direct
 reply; but looking back once more to-
 wards his native country, he expressed him-
 self in the following manner:

" Well, then Spain, thou nurse of my
 " younger years, I leave thee to travel, as it
 " seems, I know not whither: of this,
 " however, I am resolved, that wherever
 " the Holy Father, or our sacred order
 " directs me, thither I shall with pleasure
 " betake myself. And as to difficulties
 " and dangers they are lost on me, or serve
 " but to increase the ardour of my pursuits.
 " Assist me but, reverend Gonsalvo, with
 " your prudence, and hope every thing
 " from my obedience; be you the head,
 " and I will be the hand; let it be yours
 " to plan, and doubt not but it shall be
 " mine to execute, whatever may be for the
 " church's advantage. It is for this, as

" I conceive, that we are thus joined to-
 " gether ; and fear not that I will ever de-
 " feat the end of that junction. I bring
 " you a sound heart and firm courage, able
 " to endure every thing, and which will not
 " be found to shrink in the trial. It is his
 " Holiness's, it is our mother the church's ;
 " it is yours, O father, and so it shall be
 " even to my life's end. Once more,
 " Spain, adieu ! thou art no longer my pe-
 " culiar country. I will find one suited to
 " me in every climate of the peopled
 " earth."

Thus our hero finished his farewel of his
 country ; and soon after, by the manage-
 ment of his companion, embarked with a
 fair wind for Marseilles, in the South of
 France.

CHAP.

C H A P. II.

Gaspar sets forward to Paris. Meets with a Spanish Lady on the Road, who becomes his Penitent.

WHEN the travellers arrived at Marseilles, they immediately went to the college of their order, where they had been long expected, and were welcome guests, and where they were courteously entertained, according to the usual custom with travelling brethren. And after they had refreshed themselves, Father de V— took them aside, and held a long conversation with them; in the course of which, Gaspar found that the chief business in France was to gain the confidence of the Duke de Sombre, a great favourite of the court at that time, by whose means they were instructed to work upon the king to counteract his parliaments in the resolutions they had taken relative to religious matters. It was well known that there was a strong party formed against the clergy, and as these had not been wanting in

complaints, so his Holiness had not been idle in planning from time to time to support them. As a branch of this succour, our two holy fathers were intended, and accordingly took their instructions how to proceed. This was the first business of such a nature in which our Gaspar had ever been employed, and it bade fair to try his talent for state intrigue. It is true, for the present, he was but second to Gonfalso, and had in charge to act only by his directions; yet he doubted not but he should be able to profit so much by his lessons, as in future to be able to make a figure without his assistance. But to return to the conduct of their embassy.

After taking leave of their brethren, the travelling fathers set out with all expedition for Paris; half the stage to which they had completed, when entering the village of *****, in the dusk of the evening, where there was no house or college of their order, they repaired to an inn, where passengers usually put up in their road to the metropolis, and having ordered proper refreshment to be prepared for them, a point in

in which they were seldom remiss, they retired to a private room, where they began to talk over their affairs, and to enjoy themselves after the fatigues of the preceding day's journey.

While they were thus employed, a maid servant knocked at the door, and being asked her business, said, "Holy fathers, my mistress requests the favour of speaking with one of you, about something which nearly concerns her spiritual welfare."—"With which of us?" enquired Gaspar.—"With you, father," returned the girl. "And who is your mistress?" "Madame de Sampre, a widow lady, an acquaintance of the gentlewoman who keeps this cabaret. You have nothing to do but to ascend yonder flight of stairs, and knock at the first door, and I will be ready to introduce you." "Tell Madame de Sampre," replied Gaspar, "that I will not fail to attend her presently;" and then turning to Gonsalvo, asked what he thought of the matter, "Why I think," replied this true son of Ignatius, "that the lady wants to consult you in her closet,

“ and that you must go ; and if she should
 “ desire to see you again in her chamber
 “ two or three hours hence, you ought to
 “ attend her ; it is your duty, and that of
 “ the order you profess. “ Go,” added he,
 “ to the widow by all means ; but have a
 “ care of bringing a scandal upon the or-
 “ der. Keep therefore, I conjure you, the
 “ secrets intrusted to your charge, and set
 “ her conscience at rest, who trusts it to
 “ your guidance.”

So saying, he thrust him hastily out,
 who went immediately to seek the widow,
 not a little desirous of being possessed of
 the secrets she intended to communicate.
 He followed the directions which had been
 given him, and was presently conducted to
 Madame de Sampre's presence, who re-
 ceived him with a very serious air, and
 having commanded her maid to withdraw,
 thus addressed him.

“ Father, I have heard that you are
 “ lately come from Spain, which indeed
 “ is my country, though you meet me here
 “ under the name and habit of a French
 “ woman. I have sent for you, to make a
 “ con-

“ confession to you, and to take your advice in some material concerns, in which I cannot doubt but persons of your order are fully capacitated to give counsel. I will first make my confession, and afterwards inform you, if you please, of these particulars.”

Accordingly she made her confession, kneeling in a devout manner at the father's feet; but before she received absolution from the hands of Gaspar, he thought it necessary to become acquainted with the particulars she mentioned; which Madame de Sampre, on her part, observed to be so interwoven with former events, that it was not easy for her to be understood if she related the one without the other. Therefore she resolved to give him a brief account of her life and various adventures; with which we shall likewise present the reader in the following chapters.

CHAP.

C H A P. III.

The History of Madame de Sampre.

“ **T**HERE is a certain backwardness,”
 said the lady, “ in people who
 “ are not hackneyed in the ways of the
 “ world, which prevents them from being
 “ explicit in their account of themselves,
 “ especially in circumstances which do not
 “ redound to their honour ; and when such
 “ are to be recounted, the relater and the
 “ auditor are generally both in an awkward
 “ situation ; nor has the custom of auri-
 “ cular confession, enjoined by our church,
 “ been sufficient to eradicate this kind of
 “ bashfulness. In me, however, you will
 “ find no such disposition ; though young
 “ in years, I am yet old in experience, and
 “ have met with so many turns in my af-
 “ fairs, and been obliged so often to change
 “ the objects of my confidence, that it
 “ will be by no means a hard task for me,
 “ after such vicissitudes of fortune, at
 “ length to repose it in you, reverend fa-
 “ ther, whose person I esteem, and whose
 “ order

“ order I have a very particular regard for.
 “ I shall proceed therefore without farther preface, to inform you as briefly
 “ as possible of the principal occurrences of
 “ a life, which if minutely set down, would
 “ call for the attention of more days than
 “ we have leisure hours at present, and
 “ would infallibly as much tire you in the
 “ hearing, as myself in the tedious relation
 “ of it.

“ I am the daughter of Don Gabriel de Terceras, by which appellation,
 “ with that of Lenora prefixed, I was
 “ known in my maiden state. My mother dying when I was young, and Don
 “ Gabriel’s affairs soon afterwards calling
 “ him to the new world, he left me then an
 “ infant under the care of Donna Estifania,
 “ his sister, a peevish old widow of fifty,
 “ who was my perpetual torment, as she
 “ was also of her late husband’s daughter,
 “ by a former wife, in quality of whose
 “ guardian she acted; the consequence of
 “ which treatment was, that it roused a spirit
 “ of resentment in both of us which
 “ set us, as we were always together, to
 contriving

“ contriving perpetually how, in our turns,
 “ to vex and disoblige her; many child-
 “ ish tricks we played her not worth my
 “ repeating, and the old Duenna, to
 “ whom she found herself obliged to
 “ intrust us, generally came in for a share
 “ of the mischief intended her. But, at
 “ length, this latter, with whose natural
 “ temper we were in reality very little
 “ acquainted, began to relax somewhat
 “ in her severity of behaviour, and one day
 “ said to us, *Ladies, I am sorry I should be*
 “ *appointed to such an ungrateful office as I*
 “ *bold. Perhaps I have offended by my*
 “ *strictness; it shall be so no more. Children,*
 “ *indeed should be kept in order; but when*
 “ *young people grow up it is proper to slacken*
 “ *the rein. Henceforth you may command*
 “ *me in every thing that will do you a plea-*
 “ *sure, as far as it may be done with that in-*
 “ *nocence to which I doubt not but yourselves*
 “ *will ever pay a strict regard.* This decla-
 “ ration of our governess was to us as a re-
 “ prieve from purgatory. Before this
 “ time we were not allowed to walk abroad
 “ or take any manner of diversion, nor had
 “ any

“ any books but our Rosaries to entertain
 “ us; now these gave place to the entertain-
 “ ing novels and amorous romances with
 “ which our language abounds: And be-
 “ sides we were permitted to stand for whole
 “ hours in a balcony before our window,
 “ which being placed just over an angle of
 “ our garden wall, commanded some part
 “ of the adjacent road, which led to Seville,
 “ in whose neighbourhood my kinswoman’s
 “ seat was situated.

“ One day, as we were enjoying this
 “ newly acquired liberty, of which my
 “ aunt, who resided in a distant part of the
 “ house, and had left the keys of our apart-
 “ ments with the duenna, was entirely ig-
 “ norant, we espied two cavaliers, richly
 “ mounted, on whom we fixed our eyes.
 “ admiring by turns, both their persons and
 “ their equipage. They had several ser-
 “ vants in their train, but as they ap-
 “ proached, they very opportunely dis-
 “ missed these, which gave us the li-
 “ berty of surveying them with less appre-
 “ hension of exposing ourselves. When
 “ they drew near the window we hastily
 “ with-

“ withdrew ; but, whether through acci-
 “ dent or design, I know not, Elvira (that
 “ was my companion’s name) dropped
 “ some little trinket which she would, by
 “ all means go back to look for, and she
 “ had not long entered the balcony, when
 “ a loud shriek of hers called me thither to
 “ her assistance. When I came, I was
 “ surprised to find her without her veil,
 “ which it seems she had removed wan-
 “ tonly enough, in order to let the cava-
 “ liers have a sight of her, when a sudden
 “ gust of wind arising as she was playing
 “ with it, carried it over the rails of the
 “ balcony, and in spite of her efforts, blew
 “ it upon their heads below, one of whom
 “ took it up, and kissing, folded it very
 “ carefully, but (notwithstanding all our
 “ solicitations that he would return it to
 “ our governess, who was by this time a-
 “ larmed and ran to us) declared he would
 “ never restore it, till he had the pleasure
 “ of an interview with its owner, to whom
 “ alone in person, he said he would present
 “ it ; and then as some more horsemen
 “ were coming up they made their com-
 “ pli-

“ pliments, and rode off, leaving us at a
 “ loss how to palliate their unexpected ad-
 “ venture. I was horribly affrighted, my
 “ governess knew not well what measures
 “ to take ; but Elvira who had reason to be
 “ the most concerned of any of us, appeared
 “ the least so ; indeed she seemed as if she
 “ could wish the gentleman who had
 “ robbed her, might have the opportunity
 “ he desired. The Duenna told her so,
 “ and added a gentle reproof for her indis-
 “ cretion. I will not trouble you father,
 “ with our conversation on a subject of this
 “ kind. It was such as proved Elvira
 “ had indulged her eyes once too often.
 “ The Duenna, however, procured a new
 “ veil to be made up for her, without giving
 “ any ground for enquiry after what was
 “ become of the old one. Meanwhile
 “ several weeks passed over without our
 “ hearing any more of the cavaliers ; dur-
 “ ing which interval my companion used
 “ to be much troubled with talking and
 “ walking in her sleep ; a circumstance
 “ which, at first, gave both her governess
 “ and myself uneasiness ; but a physician
 “ being

“ being employed, who promised to
 “ cure her, it being his strict order that we
 “ should neither of us pretend to restrain
 “ or even watch her, as he asserted she
 “ would do herself no harm, we let her
 “ alone in these her fits, and though they
 “ still continued as frequent as ever, slept
 “ very quietly without giving ourselves any
 “ trouble about them.

“ But one day, after having been much
 “ disturbed at her night rambling, com-
 “ ing suddenly upon her, I found her bu-
 “ sied in reading a letter, on my approach
 “ she hastily put up. How now, Elvira?
 “ exclaimed I, what secrets among friends?
 “ She blushed, hesitated, but pausing a while,
 “ at length she broke out thus.—No, my
 “ dear Leonora it would be very unjust. I
 “ can keep nothing from you. The paper
 “ you saw me so sollicitous to hide from
 “ you, is written by M. de Plaisance, an
 “ amiable French gentleman, who was
 “ one of the cavaliers that we saw from
 “ our balcony, on the day I lost my veil.
 “ Between you and me, we have had fre-
 “ quent conferences from the window of
 “ the

“ the upper room, since that time, and I
 “ will now freely confess that all my night
 “ walking has only been a blind to cover
 “ it. The physician is in the secret, and
 “ happening to be a particular friend of
 “ the cavalier’s, has covered the deceit,
 “ and this evening he himself is to
 “ be introduced in the disguise of an
 “ apothecary to a closer conference. In
 “ the mean time it would be cruel to con-
 “ ceal from you that as M. de Plaisaunce
 “ is my lover, so is his companion, M. de
 “ Marville, as much yours, and I assure you,
 “ my dear, these are no mean conquests,
 “ being two gentlemen allied to some of
 “ the best families in all France.—I per-
 “ ceived that Elvira’s head was quite turn-
 “ ed with the notions she had so lately
 “ conceived, and therefore let her proceed
 “ without interruption, till, at length she
 “ invited me to be present at the private
 “ conference which she was to have with her
 “ lover; to which, after some deliberation,
 “ I consented, not so much to satisfy my
 “ curiosity, or to give a sanction to the pro-
 “ ceeding, on account that I should be
 “ ena-

“ enabled thereby the more properly to
 “ advise my friend, myself not being pre-
 “ judiced, as a party concerned.

“ Accordingly, at the appointed hour
 “ M. Plaifauce entered with the phyfician,
 “ and, after many grimaces according to
 “ the rules of art, the two lovers were
 “ at length, left alone together; but by
 “ Elvira’s defire, I was prefently called
 “ back to accompany them. I foon
 “ found that the Frenchman was a per-
 “ fon of great gallantry, and poffeffed a
 “ moft polite and infinuating addrefs. In
 “ the courfe of this interview, which might
 “ be deemed his firft vifit, he had well
 “ nigh perfuaded my fair companion to
 “ run away with him. But I was bold
 “ enough to ftart fome objections to his
 “ propofal, which neither of them were
 “ able to answer, and fo the matter drop-
 “ ped for the prefent. The reft of the
 “ conference was fuch as I will not take
 “ up your time in relating. But when M.
 “ de Plaifauce was gone, I took the li-
 “ berty to remonftrate with my friend
 “ upon her conduct. I found her, how-
 “ ever,

“ ever, too far gone in love with the
 “ stranger to listen to any advice which
 “ I could give her. She only smiled at
 “ what I said, and told me, in return, that
 “ she would contrive to bring my spark
 “ likewise, and then I should be better na-
 “ tured. Not to dwell on trifling circum-
 “ stances, she found the means to introduce
 “ him, in the room of the physician, who was
 “ said to have broke his leg, and he persona-
 “ ted another of the faculty. I will own my
 “ weakness. We had frequent interviews,
 “ our governess was negligent, and I, like
 “ Elvira, at length abandoned myself to
 “ that passion which I had blamed in her.
 “ It is true, on the proposal being repeated
 “ of carrying off, I suggested to the mes-
 “ sieurs to apply to my aunt, but to this
 “ they presently found twenty objections.
 “ They had friends who must not be in-
 “ formed of the match they intended to
 “ make with us. They had dependances in
 “ France, which would in such a case, prove
 “ bars to their marrying a Spanish lady,
 “ and, finally, they were troubled beyond
 “ measure, they said, by the great likeli-
 “ hood

“ hood there was if they applied to my
 “ kinswoman, that she should refuse them,
 “ which would infallibly occasion them to
 “ destroy themselves. The event of all
 “ this was, that I as well as my com-
 “ panion, was won over to my ruin,
 “ to the accomplishment of which, as
 “ I afterwards found, our good governess
 “ was bribed by our lovers, and favoured
 “ our escape, which we made with these
 “ gentlemen, one moon - light night.
 “ What became of Elvira at that time, I
 “ was ignorant; but, my lover conveyed
 “ me to a little country town, where he
 “ took a lodging for me, as he said till
 “ circumstances would suit for him to
 “ make me his wife. But in the interim,
 “ to my shame I speak it, he found
 “ means to prevail with me to grant him
 “ a favour, which made that ceremony
 “ unnecessary. Afterwards he persuaded
 “ me to accompany him to Paris, where
 “ he most solemnly promised to espouse me;
 “ but villainously left me to provide for
 “ myself as I could, then big with child,
 “ and in a strange country, without a single
 “ friend

“ friend that could be expected to help me;
 “ I hope heaven will forgive me the many
 “ execrations I poured out against the be-
 “ trayer, who was base enough to exchange
 “ me with one M. de Platin, an acquaint-
 “ tance of his, for a mistress of that gen-
 “ tleman’s, whom he had taken a fancy
 “ to.

“ Platin happened to have more of hu-
 “ manity in his composition than my be-
 “ trayer. He laid aside the selfish views
 “ of lustful desire; he regarded me as an
 “ object of compassion, and furnished me
 “ with all the necessaries for the ap-
 “ proaching season, without ever asking
 “ a return, nor mentioned his passion
 “ till I was recovered from my lying-
 “ in, the fruit of which was a dead
 “ child. Before this he had provided for
 “ me merely as a generous friend; then
 “ he discloses the baseness of Marville, to-
 “ gether with his own desires, which how-
 “ ever he vowed should be regulated only
 “ by my pleasure. But, after what had
 “ happened, what could I deny him, from
 “ whom all my subsistence still must come.

“ —I lived two years with him. Reve-
 “ rend father, I own I cannot think those
 “ the very worst spent of all my life.—
 “ At last he was ravished from me by the
 “ contrivance of de Marville, who, piqued
 “ at the liberty he had taken of censuring
 “ his conduct, met him one evening in a
 “ private walk, drew on him, and killed
 “ him before he could even put himself
 “ upon his guard, after which he fled,
 “ and my generous friend was brought
 “ home dead to my lodgings. Indeed
 “ I suffered cruelly by this bad action;
 “ doubly I suffered; in my grief for my
 “ benefactor, and in being a second time
 “ exposed to the wide world, a helpless,
 “ wretched, and deserted girl.

“ I was still young; I had not yet seen
 “ eighteen years: I knew well enough
 “ that I might, with a common degree of
 “ prudence, stand a chance to make a
 “ market of my charms while they lasted;
 “ but I knew also that the end of these
 “ things would be misery. I was ac-
 “ quainted with no one whom I could
 “ trust; nevertheless afflictions drive peo-
 “ ple

"ple to make confidants, where in pro-
 "sperity they would by no means think
 "of doing so. I spoke in this exigency
 "to M. de C——, a friend of the de-
 "ceased Platin's, and engaged him to
 "apply to my aunt, and to my father,
 "and endeavour to bring about a recon-
 "ciliation; but all his efforts proved in-
 "effectual; from the one quarter he re-
 "ceived no answer at all, from the other
 "he was given to understand, that he
 "would do well to trouble himself with
 "his own affairs, and not to solicit more
 "for an undutiful child, a wanton that had
 "brought shame and disgrace upon her
 "family, who were resolved for ever to
 "abandon her to that misery which she
 "had drawn upon herself.

"Thus was my advocate answered, and
 "thus repulsed; it is easy to imagine
 "that he dropped a suit which he had no
 "interest in. For my own part, I saw
 "nothing but the worst of prospects be-
 "fore me, when chance threw a person
 "in my way, who proved of great advan-
 "tage to me. It happened that I wanted

“ at that time a servant maid; the gen-
 “ tleman who had successively pleaded my
 “ cause recommended me one, whose name
 “ was Mariotte. This girl had been accus-
 “ tomed to intrigues, she had lived with
 “ some of the most celebrated beauties
 “ and jilts about the town. She initiated
 “ me in the science of intrigue, and soon
 “ put me into a way, with granting fa-
 “ vours only to a very few persons, to
 “ raise contributions on almost all the
 “ rakes in Paris, for whom we kept a
 “ private house of entertainment. Among
 “ those who visited us, there were seldom
 “ wanting one or two inamoradas, who,
 “ in the simplicity of their hearts, thought
 “ themselves the only ones that were ad-
 “ mitted. One, and the principal of these,
 “ bore the name of Sampre, which now I
 “ bear. He was a generous though a
 “ simple lover, and the proofs he gave of
 “ his liberality made ample amends for the
 “ defects which a penetrating eye might
 “ easily discover in his genius and under-
 “ standing.

“ But

" But neither the countenance we re-
 " ceived from him, who was of a good
 " family, nor all the regards shewn me
 " by several persons of fashion in the city,
 " could prevent my house from being
 " broken up, on account of some hot-
 " brained officers who commenced a fray
 " there, in which a young gentleman of
 " the first distinction received some wounds
 " and other insults, that occasioned his
 " making a complaint at court, from
 " whence I received a message, intimating
 " that it was expected I should retire
 " into the country within twenty-four
 " hours; an order which indeed I obeyed,
 " not without great reluctance, taking my
 " favourite Mariotte with me, who now
 " became my companion in my retire-
 " ment; which however did not last long,
 " as you will find by the sequel of my
 " story."

Here somebody enquiring for the lady,
 she broke off her story, and father Gaspar
 retired to his companion, who, by this
 time, waited for him at supper, to whom
 he recounted the particulars he had heard,

adding that he was to attend her again in a little space after, which the other exhorted him to be very particular in doing. Then they both sat down and enjoyed themselves, till the lady reminded them of the time, by sending again for Gaspar, who did not fail to obey the summons. —It was pretty late, nevertheless Leonora resolved to finish her story, and making fast the door, she continued it, as will be seen in the succeeding chapter.

CHAP. IV.

Continuation of Madame de Sampre's History.

"I Had made my retreat," said the lady, to a little town at about twenty miles distance from the capital, where for a while I lived in tranquillity, retired from the hurry which had before surrounded me, and in some measure free from the weight of conscious guilt and shame, which before, in my hours of solitude, had oppressed me. But Mar-
"riotte, who before my servant, was now
"become

“ become my companion, often sighed at
 “ the thoughts of the life we had aban-
 “ doned, and strove all in her power to
 “ prevail with me to adopt some such
 “ course again, either in Paris or elsewhere.
 “ Indeed at first I was not disposed to
 “ listen to her, for the cause I have as-
 “ signed, I mean the peace I enjoyed in
 “ my retirement. Soon after I had other
 “ reasons. A friar of the Dominican or-
 “ der was the man whom of all others I
 “ had chosen for my confessor. He be-
 “ longed also to the holy inquisition. To
 “ him I opened all the conduct of my
 “ past life, and at his feet received absolu-
 “ tion. Would to heaven I had proceeded
 “ no farther; but to confess my weakness,
 “ overcome by the arts of which he was a
 “ complete master, I fell into the like
 “ error with him that I had committed
 “ with others. He administered consola-
 “ tion in more ways than one. As I lived
 “ a reputed virtuous life, and passed for a
 “ maiden lady, when it was feared that the
 “ fruits of our love would grow apparent,
 “ the father thought fit to make use of all
 “ possible

“ possible means to prevent their conse-
 “ quences. Yet he was not warned, but con-
 “ tinued his correspondence with me, and
 “ considering his character, I suppose, was
 “ the less fearful of falling under any cen-
 “ sure. However that was, I gave my-
 “ self up to his embraces, and to his
 “ alone, whilst I remained at —, which
 “ was till I was invited by an old ac-
 “ quaintance of mine, settled at Mar-
 “ seilles, to repair thither, whereas there
 “ was at that time a great concourse of
 “ people, it was suggested that I might
 “ have some chance of making my for-
 “ tune by marriage. Mariotte, it needs
 “ not be doubted, seconded this advice
 “ with all her power; and I at length con-
 “ sented, taking her with me, as my cou-
 “ sin and companion.

“ When we arrived there, I found my
 “ correspondent had not deceived me.
 “ The place fully answered his descrip-
 “ tion, and my expectations. I was so-
 “ licited by more than two or three per-
 “ sons, to some of whom I should pro-
 “ bably have listened, had not an old ac-
 “ quaintance

"quaintance, whom I least thought of at
 "that time, presented himself before me,
 "and avowed himself an honourable
 "lover. This was no other than M.
 "de Sampre. Judge my surprize at
 "finding the same man address me as a
 "wife, who had already made proposals
 "to me as a mistress. I was even honest
 "enough to represent to him the absur-
 "dity of his conduct; but the extraordi-
 "nary man persisted in his resolution of
 "marrying me; to which, when I found
 "him obstinate, I at last consented. The
 "match was too advantageous to be
 "sighted on my part; and I considered
 "it as the sure method of putting me be-
 "yond the reach of malicious fortune for
 "the future.

"The ceremony was about to be per-
 "formed in the church of —, when,
 "entering, I thought I saw my old com-
 "panion Elvira standing at the door,
 "amongst a promiscuous crowd of peo-
 "ple. I would have spoken to her, but
 "she seemed to shun me, and it was not
 "proper for one in my circumstances to
 "follow her. As I advanced to the altar,

“ Mariotte came up to me, and whil-
 “ pered in my ear, “ Beware of that wo-
 “ man whom but now you would have
 “ spoken to, and get the ceremony hasten-
 “ ed over as fast as you can, or she will go
 “ near to prevent it. I was extremely
 “ surprised at this speech, as I could not
 “ guess what interest any person (and
 “ much less Elvira, if it were she) could
 “ have in such a proceeding; but whilst I
 “ was reflecting on the matter in my mind,
 “ the person in question entered the church,
 “ and placing herself where she could have
 “ a distinct view of me, without my be-
 “ ing near enough to attempt speaking to
 “ her, kept her eyes fixed upon me till
 “ the marriage-rites were beginning, when
 “ all on a sudden she called out to the priest
 “ to stop. A disapproving murmur ran
 “ through the body of the people, who,
 “ notwithstanding our precaution, had
 “ made their way into the choir. I
 “ fainted, and all things were presently in
 “ confusion. I was conveyed to M.deSam-
 “ pre’s coach, I scarcely knew how; but
 “ I know that he followed me home,
 “ and

“ and apologized for what had happened,
 “ informing me with great simplicity that
 “ he had, since my retreat into the coun-
 “ try, paid his addressee to the lady who
 “ had prevented our marriage, and who was
 “ indeed no other than my former friend
 “ Elvira. Her lover, M. Plaisance, had
 “ dealt more honourably by her than Mar-
 “ ville had done by me, and having mar-
 “ ried her, had died and left her a
 “ young rich widow. In conclusion, he
 “ bade me be comforted, saying, that she
 “ could not produce any promise or con-
 “ tract of his, and that he doubted not
 “ but in few days he should be able to
 “ settle the affair, and send her back again
 “ to Paris, which, in effect he did, and
 “ almost immediately afterwards we were
 “ married; for so he would have it, in
 “ spite of my representations, how strange
 “ such a precipitate proceeding would ap-
 “ pear. In truth, it failed not to draw
 “ upon us the eyes and attention of our
 “ neighbours; and as we were returning
 “ from church, a note was put into my
 “ hand, containing the following words.

— You have carried your point, you
 have conquered, Leonora; but your
 triumph will be short, if there be satis-
 faction to be had upon earth for broken
 friendship, and the invasion of another's
 rights. Tremble then, perfidious one.
 Be assured your secret practices will soon
 be laid open, and yourself exposed as the
 object of that public scorn and hatred
 which you deserve. Distrust and dis-
 content shall be the companions of your
 nuptial state. Remorse and anguish
 pursue you through the world, till you
 experience as much unhappiness as
 you have given to others, and wish for
 a speedy speedy end to be put to that
 being which shall be a plague to you,
 as it has already been to those about
 you. Farewel, and when these things
 come to pass, remember the writer
 of this letter.—

I cannot say that the receipt of this
 paper had any great effect upon me.
 I esteemed it as the last weak effort of a
 disappointed woman, and tearing it
 across, threw it upon the ground with

— con-

“ contempt. Mariotte, who followed me,
 “ as she has since told me, picked it up,
 “ and preserved it. In the mean while,
 “ we proceeded home through a crowd
 “ of gazers, and soon after left Mar-
 “ seilles, and set out again for Paris, where
 “ nothing engrossed my husband’s atten-
 “ tion so much, as how he might please
 “ and oblige me. Whilst I, desirous again
 “ to behold my own country, persuaded
 “ him to take a tour with me to Spain.
 “ He complied, and in a few weeks we
 “ found ourselves at Seville, whither I
 “ had urged him to withdraw himself,
 “ and where I promised myself much hap-
 “ piness : but there, most unfortunately,
 “ I met again with the Dominican friar,
 “ who insinuated himself so far with me,
 “ that I once more chose him for my
 “ confessor ; the consequence of that choice
 “ was a renewal of our intimacy, which
 “ then was doubly criminal. Again I be-
 “ came with child ; but whether by my
 “ husband, or the good father, I will not
 “ say. Each esteemed himself the father
 “ of the unborn infant, and the latter had
 “ now

" now no reason to be anxious about the
 " event, and depending on the easy, un-
 " suspicious temper of my husband, gave
 " himself no thought of what might hap-
 " pen. However, secure as we thought
 " ourselves, my husband was not without
 " his apprehensions. The author of that
 " letter which I had treated with so much
 " contempt, had given him intimations,
 " while he was in France, which were
 " sufficient, backward as he was, to
 " awaken his apprehensions. It is true
 " indeed, that he was willing to marry one
 " whom he thought at one time he might
 " have gained over to favour his suit upon
 " easier terms than those of marriage;
 " but then it is to be observed, that he
 " thought all along no other person could
 " ever have prevailed so far, nor was it
 " in the power of any body to convince
 " him to the contrary. Even the affair
 " which occasioned my being ordered so
 " hastily to quit Paris, he only looked
 " upon as an accident that some of my
 " enemies who envied me had improved
 " to my disadvantage. The character in
 " which

“ which I appeared at Marseilles, confirmed
 “ him in these favourable opinions, and
 “ occasioned his making me his wife; but
 “ that once done, when he found too late
 “ that there was some reason for jealousy,
 “ he proved himself as susceptible of it as
 “ another man. The Dominican had al-
 “ ready been pointed out to him; and
 “ Elvira, who had heard it all from a
 “ companion of the friar’s, with whom he
 “ thought the secret safe; she, I say, being
 “ apprized of my confessor’s return into
 “ Spain, recommended M. de Sampre to
 “ apply to those who would narrowly watch
 “ his conduct. The event was such as I
 “ shall never forget; for I am sure it was
 “ near proving fatal to me. My husband,
 “ instructed as he was, easily surprized us
 “ when we were secure, and least of all
 “ suspected him. He would not proceed
 “ to any personal attack upon his rival,
 “ but suffered him to depart, being fully
 “ resolved to take another kind of re-
 “ venge upon him. He applied to the In-
 “ quisition, who presently took cogni-
 “ zance of the affair, and in due time,
 “ cited

" cited them to appear before them with
 " all the parade usual upon such occasions.
 " — What was more extraordinary was,
 " that soon after my husband disappeared;
 " and when he was removed, one of the
 " inquisitors paid me a visit in order, as he
 " said, to take my depositions relative to
 " the matter, for which, however, I could
 " not find that their court had any right
 " to call one to account. Be that as it
 " may, as he behaved with the utmost
 " complaisance, I gave him such a de-
 " tail as was most natural for a person
 " in my situation, and the examiner de-
 " parted seemingly well enough satisfied
 " with what he had heard. A few days
 " after this, as I was walking out towards
 " sun-set, a grave man met me, who told
 " me that a French gentleman, who called
 " himself de Sampre, waited for me at a cer-
 " tain house which he named, whither I
 " went without hesitation; but, to my very
 " great surprize, instead of meeting there
 " my husband, I saw, going into a private
 " room, several strange men, who seized
 " me in the name of the holy office, bound
 " and

" and gagged me, and carried me to a
 " coach, which was waiting at the back-
 " door, and which immediately hurried
 " me off to a prison, where I remained
 " all the night upon straw, without light,
 " comfort, or refreshment, the prey of
 " melancholy thoughts and dismal reflec-
 " tions on my crime, and the nature of
 " its punishment. The morning dawned
 " before slumber seized my eyes, which
 " was disturbed by a person's opening my
 " prison door, and bidding me follow
 " him : I arose and did so, as well as I
 " was able, and he led me into a spacious
 " room, inclosing a closet, which he told
 " me was to be my bedchamber, and then,
 " locking the doors, left me for a few
 " minutes, when a maid servant entered with
 " some chocolate and sweet cakes, which
 " having set down, and pointed to me to
 " make use of, she presently withdrew, but
 " presently returned with some linen and
 " very good clothes, water, and all the
 " other apparatus for dress ; she left these
 " also, together with a little note open
 " on the table, and then retired as before.
 " When

“When she was gone I examined the
 “paper, and found its contents to be to
 “this effect.—

“Leonora de Sampre is accused of ut-
 “tering certain blasphemous and scan-
 “dalous words against our sacred religion,
 “and the holy inquisition. Leonora would
 “be already condemned to the flames, but
 “that the reverend Don —— has en-
 “gaged for her, and stands bound to pro-
 “duce and to clear her before the court;
 “how much then does she owe to him;
 “if she prove tractable, her crimes may
 “be palliated; if obstinate, he can no
 “longer be expected to protect an in-
 “grate. Leonora cannot (except through
 “affectation) pretend to misunderstand the
 “purport of these sentences: she will do
 “well to resolve speedily how she will con-
 “duct herself to those in whose hands is
 “her inevitable fate.—

“I saw plainly the drift of this epistle;
 “I had two things to chuse, death or
 “compliance; it was easy to guess on
 “which of these my choice must fall; I
 “was far from being prepared for the
 “former,

“former, and must necessarily deem the
 “latter more eligible. I had just reco-
 “vered from the surprise this billet had
 “thrown me into, when the maid came
 “the third time to me, and told me that
 “Don —— sent his compliments, and
 “would do himself the pleasure of dining
 “with me. I made no other answer but a
 “nod of approbation, and within three
 “hours (during which time I amused my-
 “self with dressing and perusing various
 “books that lay about) the person in
 “question entered, and, with a very re-
 “served air, paid me the usual compli-
 “ments of the day, which I returned, and
 “that was all that passed between us till
 “our dinner, which was a very elegant
 “one, was served up. Nobody was pre-
 “sent at the repast but himself and me,
 “and a middle-aged man, who seemed
 “to be his friend and agent. After the
 “cloth was removed, these two latter be-
 “gan a discourse concerning the holy office,
 “and people who were liable to its cen-
 “sures, in the course of which they dwelt
 “so much on the punishment inflicted on
 “heretics

“ heretics and other offenders, that they
 “ made me shudder, which Don —
 “ perceiving, turned to me, and said,—
 “ Some of these things would doubtless
 “ have befallen you, but that you have
 “ powerful friends and intercessors.—I
 “ answered very humbly, that I could ne-
 “ ver enough acknowledge my obligations
 “ to such friends, whoever they might be,
 “ and that I should be glad to be ac-
 “ quainted with them, that I might ex-
 “ press my gratitude. The inquisitor re-
 “ plied,—It was not impossible but that I
 “ might have such an opportunity before
 “ long, if I were *tractable*, and followed
 “ directions.—The significant air with
 “ which he uttered this sentence, and the
 “ repetition of the word *tractable*, which
 “ I had before taken notice of in the let-
 “ ter, were sufficient to give me to under-
 “ stand a great deal; but when I would
 “ have urged the discourse farther, the two
 “ gentlemen declined it, and called for
 “ coffee and cards; and thus we amused
 “ ourselves till sun-set, when they with-
 “ drew; and soon after, the maid whom

" I had seen so often before, returned, and
 " gave me a hint that it would not be pro-
 " per for me to fasten my chamber door
 " at night, when I went to bed. I took
 " it, and complied. Need I relate the
 " sequel? Some one (I could not perceive,
 " but might easily guess whom) entered
 " my room in the night, and thus com-
 " pleted the infamous adventure.

" I was detained for a long time in
 " these apartments belonging to Don ———,
 " how much longer I might have remained
 " there, or what would have been done
 " with me, when he chose to dismiss me, I
 " know not; but my husband was a
 " Frenchman. The inquisitors had had
 " the insolence, not being apprized of
 " this (or pretending that they were not)
 " to secure him, under colour of keeping
 " him to make good his allegations. But
 " he had some friends among his country-
 " men, who saw him seized, that made
 " their complaints, and by means of the
 " French ambassador's remonstrances, whose
 " master's troops had formerly wrought
 " wonders with them in the kingdom,
 " got

“ got him set at liberty immediately.
 “ When he was himself discharged, he
 “ next applied to his excellency to solicit
 “ in my behalf: for though he had made
 “ complaints against the Dominican, yet
 “ he had no intention to bring me before
 “ the court of inquisition. The ambassa-
 “ dor found it, however, a much harder
 “ task to get my discharge than he had
 “ to procure my husband’s. Indeed, it
 “ is very probable that with all his power
 “ and interest, this latter would not have
 “ been effected at all, if it had not been for
 “ the remembrance of the rough manner in
 “ which the inquisitors had been treated
 “ by the French commanders forces, years
 “ before that, whose complaints when the
 “ Catholic king heard, he was obliged to
 “ excuse himself from redressing them.
 “ The fathers being gently reminded of these
 “ things, the consideration had such an effect
 “ on them, that loth as they were to grant my
 “ release, they could deny nothing to the in-
 “ terest, which, backed with the king’s au-
 “ thority, now solicited it. In short, after a
 “ confinement of twenty-five days, I one
 “ morn-

“ morning found a paper on my table;
 “ which I opened, and read as fol-
 “ lows:—

“ — The interest of Don —— has at
 “ length prevailed so far, as to procure
 “ the release of Leonora. If she be wise,
 “ she will consign to oblivion all that has
 “ passed; otherwise she is to remember,
 “ that the inquisition in Spain never dies.
 “ To-morrow she will be prepared to de-
 “ part, and within three days she will be
 “ at liberty.”—

“ This gave me no small pleasure. It had
 “ been intimated to me, that the inqui-
 “ sitors made use of strange means to
 “ procure themselves mistresses, some of
 “ whose footsteps to their den of shame,
 “ (like those of the beasts to the sick
 “ lion’s,) were to be traced; but of their
 “ return no vestiges remained. I was
 “ therefore not a little uneasy to think what
 “ might become of me, when it should be
 “ judged proper to dismiss me. I had not
 “ been kept so close, but that, in spite of
 “ all the arts used to blind me, I had
 “ grounds to suspect the reverend fathers
 “ had

“ had other females in their custody ; but
 “ how they dealt with them was a myf-
 “ tery : only it feemed that they came
 “ with great noife and hurry, but went off
 “ in filence and fecrecy. I was now pro-
 “ mifed a fair and public difcharge ; it
 “ was no wonder then that I ftuck at no-
 “ thing to obtain it. The next day the
 “ maid came and difrobed me of the
 “ clothes which I had been equipped with,
 “ and gave me my own, taking away with
 “ her the papers I mentioned, and every
 “ thing which belonged to her employer.
 “ After which I was conducted into a
 “ great hall, where, for the form’s fake,
 “ the inquirer’s agent took down my de-
 “ pofition in writing. Then I was dif-
 “ miffed with a feeret charge to difcover
 “ nothing of what had happened, and a
 “ terrible threat in cafe of difobedience.
 “ At the door I found waiting for me a
 “ coach, which my husband had fent for
 “ me, and into which, to prevent being
 “ gazed at, I threw myfelf, and it drove
 “ away directly.—When M. Sampre faw
 “ me arrive, he received me with a cool
 “ and

“ and reserved air, and conducted me to
 “ a house which he had hired in the
 “ suburbs, where he placed me under the
 “ care of an old duenna, and having
 “ given her some private orders, with a
 “ sigh returned.—With this woman I re-
 “ mained for above three weeks, without
 “ seeing his face, or that of any other per-
 “ son.—At the end of this term, as I was
 “ one morning diverting myself at my
 “ window, which was the only method I
 “ had of passing my time, whom should
 “ I espy but my Dominican, who cast up
 “ his eyes to me, and immediately knew
 “ me.” — “ Hift! hift! Leonora,” said
 “ he, “ do you live here ? ” — “ I answered
 “ him in the affirmative, and desired he
 “ would oblige me with his absence.”
 “ Yes, I will go,” he replied ; “ but it
 “ must be to return again with the first op-
 “ portunity.” — And so saying, he disap-
 “ peared as quickly as possible; for by this
 “ time M. de Sampre was coming up,
 “ whose sight he narrowly escaped, to my
 “ no small satisfaction. For my own
 “ part, I retired instantly to my inner
 Vol. II. D “ cham-

“ chamber, where my husband found me
 “ when he entered, reclined on my couch
 “ in a mournful posture. Approaching
 “ me, with great sweetness and compassion
 “ painted on his countenance,—“ What,
 “ melancholy, Leonora!” said he, “ may
 “ I hope that this deportment arises from
 “ the just sense you have of your misbeha-
 “ viour, both in your own and in my re-
 “ gard, or may I believe that your suf-
 “ ferings have at last brought you to a due
 “ sense of what you owe to virtue and to
 “ honour, and that you will shew, by
 “ your future conduct, that you are sorry
 “ for what is past, and mean to make a
 “ sincere amendment”—I know not what
 “ answer I made in my confusion,
 “ which indeed was not small; but it
 “ was such a reply as was not dis-
 “ agreeable; for he thus proceeded:—
 “ Well then, since you seem to give to-
 “ kens of repentance, I am come to put
 “ an end to the sorrows of it. Though
 “ I am by no means insensible of all that
 “ is past; I most freely forgive it, and
 “ from this instant take you again to my
 “ arms.

“ arms. We will leave this town, where
 “ the affair is known, and where the par-
 “ tial inquisition presides, and withdraw
 “ ourselves to any other part of the king-
 “ dom, or to my own country again, as
 “ we shall see occasion, and spend in some
 “ rural retirement the remainder of that
 “ life, whose beginning has been vexed
 “ with such storms. We will seek quiet
 “ and contentment in the scenes of simple
 “ nature, whose innocent simplicity can
 “ banish from the mind the traces of af-
 “ fliction, and even those worn there by
 “ more heart-corroding guilt. To such a
 “ place, if you will attend me, it shall be
 “ your own fault if you are not as happy
 “ as tranquillity and peace can make you.”
 “ —As I never had the highest opinion of
 “ M. de Sampre’s genius and understand-
 “ ing, I cannot say but I the more ad-
 “ mired his moderation, and the plan of
 “ life which he so persuasively recom-
 “ mended. I was moved ; I was sincerely
 “ touched : I broke out into tears of con-
 “ trition and penitence.—“ Why, said I,
 “ did I ever injure this man ? Why did

“ I listen to the voice of the seducer, and
 “ suffer myself so often to be misled into
 “ paths, whose end must necessarily be mi-
 “ sery?” I will not trouble you with all the
 “ reflexions of this kind which I made.
 “ But I promised my husband I would do
 “ and be every thing he could wish or de-
 “ sire, and I prepared myself to fulfil my
 “ promise, when ill fortune, joined to my
 “ own weakness, once more disconcerted
 “ my then sincere intentions. One even-
 “ ing, as I sat undressing myself in my
 “ chamber, M. de Sampre having signi-
 “ fied that he should not be at home that
 “ night, I thought I heard a noise in my
 “ closet; turning my head to listen, I
 “ perceived a man come out from thence
 “ muffled. I shrieked out, but he pre-
 “ sently advanced, and stopping my
 “ mouth, bade me be of good courage,
 “ and fear nothing, in a voice which I
 “ had but too much cause to remember :
 “ It was no other than father —— himself.
 “ I was equally displeased and astonished,
 “ and bade him be gone ; but he begged
 “ so hard to stay, that I was obliged to
 “ comply

“ comply with his ill request, which be-
 “ ing granted, the first thing he did was
 “ to satisfy my curiosity relative to what
 “ sentence the inquisitors had passed upon
 “ him, in which I found he was highly
 “ favoured; for being himself one of
 “ their familiars, they thought proper only
 “ to condemn him to suffer a penance to
 “ be inflicted by his own hands, in the
 “ presence of the prior of the convent, and
 “ to be suspended from preaching for a
 “ twelvemonth. Having given me this
 “ satisfaction, the friar proceeded to en-
 “ gage me in variety of conversation, and
 “ at length by his behaviour plainly enough
 “ indicated that he had no intention of de-
 “ parting that night. I called the duenna,
 “ but found her entirely in his interest,
 “ and learned it was through her means
 “ that he procured himself a hiding-place
 “ in my closet. What followed I may
 “ well blush to relate. This deceiver never
 “ left solliciting, till he again triumphed
 “ over my virtue and my resolution. For
 “ this part of my conduct, holy father,
 “ I cannot pretend to offer any vindica-
 “ tion,

"tion, except the plea of my sex's weak-
 "ness, who can seldom deny the man any
 "thing, to whom once they have yielded,
 "may in such a case be allowed. As to
 "my husband, he gave himself up (ac-
 "cording to the easiness of his temper)
 "to a blameable security, which facili-
 "tated the renewal of our intrigue, and
 "in the end was productive of fatal con-
 "sequences to himself. I have men-
 "tioned that he had projected a retreat
 "from Seville, and indeed it was a very
 "prudent design; but having contracted
 "some acquaintance in the city, and be-
 "sides entered into some connexions,
 "wherein his interest was concerned, he
 "seemed to have laid it aside, and to behave
 "in much the same manner as if nothing
 "had happened. This was indeed the
 "very model of his temper, to forget the
 "greatest evils and inconveniences almost
 "on the instant that they ceased. And
 "for this he too often suffered the punish-
 "ment due to his imprudence, though
 "not to his ill temper. The terrors of
 "the inquisition, and their oppressions,
 "were

“ were now entirely forgotten, though
 “ at that very time an agent of theirs was
 “ perpetually about our doors, equally
 “ unknown to both of us. This was no
 “ other than the same person who was em-
 “ ployed by the inquisitors. His name at
 “ that time I knew not, though with his
 “ his person I should have been well
 “ enough acquainted, had I at that time
 “ seen him ; but he kept out of my sight,
 “ till one evening, when I had supposed
 “ my husband to be gone abroad for the
 “ night, and expected father B—’s pre-
 “ sence, I was surprised in my chamber by
 “ this man, a circumstance which bring-
 “ ing to my mind all that had passed whilst
 “ I was in the prison of the inquisition,
 “ terrified me excessively. However, he used
 “ all possible means to console me, assuring
 “ me that I was not in the least danger from
 “ him ; that his chief motive for coming
 “ was to let me into matters, to which at
 “ that time I was a stranger. What this
 “ great and boasted secret was, I am still
 “ ignorant of ; all that I know is, that

“ the time, the place, my address, and
 “ his desires, conspired to make him take
 “ some amorous freedoms with me, which
 “ were far from meeting with a favourable
 “ return on my side ; on the contrary, I
 “ considered them as insults, which bring-
 “ ing to my mind the unhappy condition,
 “ to which guilt had reduced me, occa-
 “ sioned me to burst into tears, and to
 “ vow that nothing less but absolute force
 “ should make me continue in practices
 “ which my heart still abhorred. On this
 “ the servant of the holy office quitted me,
 “ and vowed in his turn, that he would urge
 “ me to nothing which might be detrimen-
 “ tal to my peace, and that if I were sincere
 “ in my professions, he would put me in the
 “ way of maintaining them, and of re-
 “ assuming with advantage the paths of
 “ honour and of virtue. I cannot say
 “ that this discourse gained much credit
 “ with me, though it was accompanied
 “ with some very solemn protestations
 “ which he was making, when my go-
 “ verness entered, very much affrighted,
 “ and told me, that my husband was un-
 “ ex-

"expectedly returned. To do justice to
 "my new lover, I believe he would have
 "attempted, as a proof of his sincerity,
 "to have stood his presence, had not I
 "urged his retreat, which certainly my
 "ill fortune put it into my head to insist
 "upon; for the event of *that* night
 "involved me in fresh troubles, which
 "this evening will be too short to con-
 "clude the relation of; but if to-
 "morrow you depart not from hence,
 "and will attend me early in the morning,
 "I will acquaint you with the sequel: At
 "present I imagine repose will be equally
 "needful to us both, and to that I must
 "commend you. May you taste of more
 "rest than at present falls to the share of
 "the unhappy Leonora."

So saying, the lady dismissed her con-
 fessor, as we shall do our reader, who,
 tired with the length of this chapter, may
 perhaps find himself somewhat inclined to
 take the benefit of slumber likewise, which
 having enjoyed, if he be so minded, he
 may read the conclusion of this story, as
 it is written in the following pages.

C H A P. V.

The Sequel of Madame de Sampre's Story.

GASPAR failed not of his attendance the next morning, as soon as Leonora was arisen, and she thus continued her history.

My husband indeed, as the duenna had said, was arrived; but he was not returned to stay: on the contrary, he only came to fetch some papers out of his closet, which he had forgotten, and then departed again immediately. Indeed he was so much in a hurry, that he did not so much as perceive the confusion I was in, which otherwise was visible enough. I thought myself happy that he left me thus, as fearing every moment the friar might approach the door; but worse than the worst of my fears proved the case. The last-mentioned person had met the servant of the holy office just as he quitted the house, and words arising between them, a
 “ scuffle

" scuffle ensued, in which he wounded
 " his antagonist in the side with a pistol,
 " which he always carried about him
 " when he came to visit me. The wounded
 " man, however, being of an obstinate
 " and persevering spirit, was not to be over-
 " come. The pain only making him
 " more furious, he closed with the friar,
 " and having wrested the pistol from his
 " hand, collared him, and would certainly
 " have strangled him, had not my unfor-
 " tunate husband at that juncture come
 " up, and interposed between them. Whe-
 " ther it were that he was not known to
 " either, or that friar B— took a malici-
 " ous pleasure in doing mischief, he took
 " care to discover the cause of their con-
 " test to M. de Sampre, who now was
 " seized with a rage more violent than
 " theirs, and drawing his sword, fell upon
 " them both with more than a madman's
 " frenzy. They retired before him; he
 " followed with eagerness, when in the
 " darkness of the night, as he pursued
 " them down a flight of steps, which led
 " into a blind alley, he had the misfortune

" to slip, and falling, his own weapon,
 " which he held in his hand, pierced his
 " breast, and he languished there for two
 " hours before some people took him up,
 " and brought him home in a sad condi-
 " tion, wounded and speechless. The first
 " thing he did, as soon as he recovered the
 " use of his voice and reason, was to com-
 " mand me to be instantly removed from
 " his presence, and confined again in the
 " same chamber where I had formerly
 " been lodged; from whence, however,
 " I now in the confusion made my escape,
 " running I knew not whither, from the
 " vengeance which I feared awaited me.
 " But as soon as I had got far enough to
 " think myself secure from the danger of
 " a pursuit, which I afterwards found was
 " not made, being then in the fields, I
 " sat down and called a council with my-
 " self, which way I should direct my
 " course. Wretched as I was, I could not
 " suppose that I had any friends among those
 " with whom he was acquainted. In this
 " situation, I believe, I should have sought
 " out the servant of the holy office, had I
 " known

“ known where to find him ; but, igno-
 “ rant of this, I could not tell where to ap-
 “ ply, and began to feel myself in circum-
 “ stances nearly similar to those which
 “ Elvira wished, and almost prophe-
 “ sied should befall me.—I saw nothing
 “ remaining, but to take up my former
 “ course of life ; and even that, wretched
 “ as it was, I had not the means to resume
 “ in the manner I had formerly adopted
 “ it.—At this time of necessity, Mariotte
 “ came into my head : that wench soon
 “ after on my marriage with M. de
 “ Sampre ; her temper not suiting his,
 “ had left us, and was now married to one
 “ M. Dimanche, a countryman of her own,
 “ who was a jeweller at Madrid. As it
 “ chanced, the way I had taken led to-
 “ wards that city, I resolved to prose-
 “ cute it till I should come to the public
 “ road, which I accordingly did, and soon
 “ after procured, under a borrowed name,
 “ a conveyance to the capital. I there
 “ found Mariotte easily enough, and found
 “ her as friendly and as humble as ever.
 “ I disclosed my affairs to her, and pro-
 “ fessed

" fessed myself ready to take her advice.
 " When she had heard me out,—“ I do
 " not see, said she, madam, that your
 " case is so desperate as you imagine
 " it. You have indeed been unhappy;
 " but you have yet youth and comeliness
 " on your side; if you cannot agree with
 " M. Sampre, it is not impossible but
 " you may with some other person; and
 " what is the union of bodies to that of
 " minds? Your ill fortune, you see, has
 " decreed, that neither of you shall taste of
 " felicity in a married state. Proceed then
 " as if you were single, and even let him
 " do the same. Your husband is a French-
 " man, and if he lives, be assured he will
 " act with such a gallantry as I have
 " mentioned. As to yourself, I say no-
 " thing; but if you were in my country
 " again, you might again be admired, and
 " again be happy.”—

" I protest to you, holy father, that
 " perceiving the drift of her discourse, I
 " argued with all my might against it.
 " In conclusion, she told me she would
 " leave me to myself till some news of my
 " husband

" husband could be procured. In the
 " mean time, I was welcome to command
 " her husband's house, on the condition
 " only of admitting the visits of some of
 " her acquaintance, in order, as she said,
 " to divert my melancholy thoughts.
 " Among these was Don Mendez de Ca-
 " rassa, who was very assiduous in his devoirs
 " to me, addressing me in the character
 " which I assumed of a French gentle-
 " man's widow; and, had I really at that
 " time been what I seemed, I should have
 " been glad to have listened without re-
 " serve to the honourable proposals which
 " he made me, which, on the score of
 " my situation, I was obliged at first to
 " decline, till by the artifice of my friend,
 " or the mistake of others, I was per-
 " suaded that M. de Sampre was really
 " dead at Seville. I then made no scruple
 " of admitting Don Mendez to the pos-
 " session of his wishes, which were sanctified
 " by the nuptial tie, and we lived for
 " some months happily enough together,
 " till one evening, at the comedy, I had
 " the mortification to see my supposed
 " dead

“ dead husband, at sight of whom I shrieked
 “ out, and fainted away. Why should I
 “ dwell upon this scene, and lengthen out
 “ my tediously unhappy story? It was he
 “ himself; he saw me then, and after
 “ claimed me of Don Carassa; a duel
 “ first, in which friends interposing, pre-
 “ vented mischief, a litigation afterwards
 “ was the consequence. The Frenchman
 “ prosecutes by law, while the Spaniard
 “ solicits a dispensation from Rome to ren-
 “ der his second marriage valid. While
 “ each courted me to remain with him, I
 “ forsook them both, and threw myself
 “ into a convent, where I intended to pass
 “ at least this interval in peace, and after-
 “ wards, if possible, to get myself ad-
 “ mitted. But here one of the first per-
 “ sons who presented himself to my view
 “ was the Dominican, now confessor to
 “ the nuns. I could not endure his sight,
 “ and departed thence more hastily than
 “ I had come thither. I could not think
 “ of returning to Mariotte; for I feared
 “ her partiality to Mendez would render
 “ me unhappy; but applying to a widow
 “ lady,

“ lady, who had known me whilst I was
 “ yet at M. Dimanche’s house, and telling
 “ her my case, I was taken into her pro-
 “ tection. She was about to travel to
 “ Paris. I lay concealed at her house till
 “ she set off. I then embarked with her
 “ for France. But when we reached
 “ Marseilles, she was taken sick, and there
 “ she died, leaving me indeed possessed
 “ of cash and effects to a considerable va-
 “ lue; but dispossessing me in her own
 “ person of what I valued most, a sincere
 “ and worthy friend. It is but a month
 “ since her death, and in the course of
 “ that time, I have been discovered by
 “ some of my countrymen here, and have
 “ been informed that M. de Sampre,
 “ whose widow I pass for, is speeding hi-
 “ ther to claim me as his wife, whilst on
 “ on the contrary, Don Carassa every day
 “ expects a dispensation, which if he re-
 “ ceives, he will follow me, and these
 “ two will chace me all over France, and
 “ Spain too, should I return thither. What
 “ then, holy father, would you have me
 “ do, in this perplexity of my situation?
 “ How

" How shall I atone to heaven for my
 " past conduct? how secure to myself,
 " in my future days, the blessings of
 " peace and tranquillity, and once more
 " to tread in those paths of virtue which
 " I have too early and too often forsaken?
 " Kneeling at your feet, I crave your ab-
 " solution, your blessing, and your pious
 " advice in these most intricate affairs, how
 " I may best make amends to the injured,
 " and behave like what I would wish to
 " become, a true penitent, and a con-
 " verted sinner."

Gaspar paused here; he gave the bless-
 ing and absolution; but as to the advice
 and atonement, together with the penance
 necessary, he required a longer time to
 consider on those circumstances, in the
 course of which, he thought to consult his
 senior and others more skilled in casuisti-
 cal cases than himself, yet he resolved to
 dismiss her with words of comfort, and to
 confess a truth, which, as impartial histo-
 rians, we think ourselves bound to own,
 he was so far smitten with the beauties of
 Madame de Sampre, that he could not but
 shew

shew it in his countenance, and by some eager pressures which he gave her hand, as he applied it to his lips at parting. He was then just about to withdraw, when Leonora told him she had forgotten one circumstance, which was, that she had met with the agent of the holy office again since she came to France. "I strove to avoid him," said she "but could not. Indeed he said little to me; but, in that little, gave me to understand, that he knew where to light on me. In short, possessed as I am every day by the apprehension of being seized by the hand of power, I am not without I know not what of fears of the sight of one who belongs to the inquisition; and though I well know that diabolical court has no authority in this country, yet I cannot without horror endure the sight of one of its ministers." —

"You might soon have reason for your fears," answered a voice, not unknown to either of them, on the other side of the chamber-door, "if you were within the jurisdiction of the court you scandalize.

"At

“ At present you will do well at least to
 “ with-hold your censure, whilst you are
 “ within the hearing of one, who has the
 “ honour to be an officer of theirs, and
 “ who has been but too often the witness
 “ of your shameless irregularities. But
 “ open the door,” continued the same
 voice, “ and let in him who perhaps is
 “ come but just early enough to impart to
 “ you the secret he promised, and to pre-
 “ vent you from adding to your other
 “ crimes, one that would as far ex-
 “ ceed them, as the waters of the bound-
 “ less swelling ocean do those of the nar-
 “ row gently-purling stream.”—Thus ad-
 monished, Gaspar gave the person who
 had spoken all this admittance, and in him
 beheld no other than Bertram de Torres,
 Familiar of the holy office, and his very
 particular friend and patron, to whom he
 owed all that he was, and almost all that
 he had been, or was likely to be in future
 life. Notwithstanding all that had been
 said of the latter, the two friends met with
 real and unfeigned joy; and after their sa-
 lutations were over, Bertram asked Gas-
 par

par to tell him truly what was his business
 there; of which being satisfied, and that
 it was not upon any matter of intrigue
 that he came thither, he expressed a great
 pleasure at that circumstance. "I feared,"
 continued he, "it might have been other-
 "wise. As I have already told you, Gas-
 "par, that I had an interest in your af-
 "fairs, so I now add, that I have the
 "same in those of this lady; and where-
 "fore I have, in the sequel of my story,
 "the former part of which you have al-
 "ready heard, given some account. But
 "as it contains a variety of tedious inci-
 "dents, and will be much too long for me
 "to repeat, if it rests still in your me-
 "mory, you will oblige me by reciting it
 "to Madame de Sampre. I know the
 "occasion of your journey. The time of
 "your removal is fixed for to-morrow in
 "the afternoon. Before that period ar-
 "rives, I will, in presence of you both,
 "conclude my history, and give you some
 "lights, which it is very proper to com-
 "municate to you, as it may be a long
 "time before I see either of you again
 "when

“ when we part, and I would not leave
 “ you in the dark, with regard to those
 “ matters which I promised to disclose be-
 “ fore you set out, or to any thing which
 “ may so nearly concern you. This was
 “ my business with you; and the same
 “ was my business with Leonora, though
 “ she seems so much affrighted at my pre-
 “ sence. But it is time for her to lay aside
 “ those fears of one who never meant to
 “ hurt her, and who acted only by com-
 “ pulsion in any thing which was said or
 “ done disagreeable to her, whilst in the
 “ prison of the court of inquisition, but
 “ used all the little interest he had towards
 “ co-operating with those who demanded
 “ her release.”—Here he ended, and Gas-
 par, by the lady’s desire, repeated all those
 circumstances of his friend’s history, which
 we have set down in the first volume,
 which he had but just done, when a
 messenger brought some letters to Leonora,
 whereon the gentlemen withdrew, and
 left her to read them, from which she
 drew such information as the reader will
 find

find set down at large in the succeeding chapters, according to the order in which they took place in the course of this history.

C H A P. VI.

A Conversation between two holy Fathers, and other Matters.

WHILE Madame de Sampre was busied in reading her letters, Bertram withdrew to some persons, who waited for him in the inn, and our hero returned to father Gonsalvo, to whom he related all that had passed between himself and Leonora, not forgetting to mention the sudden entrance of his old friend Bertram, whom fortune had doomed him every where to meet where he least expected him, and whose adventures seemed as it were interwoven in the tissue of his own. The narrative was long, though he much abridged it; however, Gonsalvo, listening attentively, answered,

“ If

“ If I mistake not, my dear companion,
 “ you will also find Leonora to have some
 “ interest in your adventures, which, ex-
 “ traordinary as they may have hitherto
 “ seemed, are not likely to prove less so
 “ in future : for you must be introduced
 “ in different characters to the meanest
 “ offices, and to the courts of princes.
 “ To the duke de Sombre is our first desti-
 “ nation ; him I am to address with all
 “ the policy I am master of, in the qua-
 “ lity of his confessor, as he thought fit to
 “ send for one of our society for that pur-
 “ pose. In the mean time, you must at-
 “ tend another nobleman of some rank
 “ in the same quality ; but as he is sup-
 “ posed to incline to the other party, your
 “ chief business will be to have a watchful
 “ eye over him, and to inform yourself
 “ how much he is permitted to sway the
 “ king, and what share he enjoys of his
 “ confidence. I need not inform you of
 “ the steps which the parliament have
 “ taken to the detriment of the clergy, in
 “ which the church in general being con-
 “ cerned, his holiness has thought proper
 “ to

“ to send some to interfere in the business,
 “ left, like a neighbouring nation, the
 “ Gallic power should by degrees attempt
 “ to shake off its dependance on the holy
 “ Roman see. Why the supreme head of
 “ the church hath not thought proper, at
 “ this time, more immediately to interfere
 “ by his nuncio, is a matter which I shall
 “ not here discuss. Perhaps hereafter that
 “ may also be done. But, to return to what
 “ more nearly concerns us : If the me-
 “ thods I speak of should not answer the
 “ expectations formed of them, we shall
 “ have occasion to change our characters,
 “ and you must sink below your sphere.
 “ Perhaps I may have occasion to do the
 “ same, and we shall then have a very dif-
 “ ficult task to manage, which being ac-
 “ complished, both of us, you in particu-
 “ lar, must rise as high as we have de-
 “ scended low, and blaze out in the front
 “ of the French court in grandeur not our
 “ own. Such is the posture of affairs at
 “ present in that nation, that it is an hun-
 “ dred to one but we shall have occasion
 “ for all these stretches of policy, before
 VOL. II. E “ we

“ we are able to fulfil the commission of
 “ his holiness, and to secure the church in
 “ all her rights and immunities, which
 “ now her eldest son seems questioning
 “ with himself whether he shall maintain
 “ her in.—The duke de Sombre is, for
 “ his part, haughty, choleric, and im-
 “ patient of controul; but, in opposition
 “ to these qualities, he is reputed to be
 “ open, generous, and tenacious of his
 “ honour: on him must be our first at-
 “ tack. I will endeavour to possess my-
 “ self of the key of his heart, to flatter
 “ his ruling passions, and thereby to regu-
 “ late his actions. All this, as it is for
 “ the church’s service, is indispensably
 “ necessary; and, doubtless, you, who have
 “ expressed so much zeal in point of your
 “ duty, will not be backward in fulfilling
 “ your engagements. Ordained as you
 “ have been, before the usual time, and a
 “ great part of your noviceship dispensed
 “ with, it indeed becomes you to shew
 “ yourself not unworthy of that indul-
 “ gence, and to prove yourself a true son
 “ of Loyola, and of the church, to the
 “ con-

“ confusion of those (for such there are)
 “ who have objected against your early
 “ admission. In effect, my Gaspar, you
 “ will not find the discharge of your
 “ function confined to the duties of reli-
 “ gion alone, nor the dull solemnities of
 “ a cell and a monastic life.—The requi-
 “ sites necessary to it in their attainment,
 “ will be various, useful, and sometimes
 “ even entertaining. Philosophy and
 “ science you have already found to be
 “ ranked with these: among them you
 “ may also reckon the study of politics, of
 “ men and manners, and the most curious
 “ researches into every branch of the arts,
 “ as well as into the hidden arcana of na-
 “ ture. All these require a lively genius,
 “ and a clear understanding; and such
 “ must those be possessed of, whom our
 “ holy fathers chuse for their missionaries,
 “ or ambassadors into foreign lands. Such
 “ they have generally been, and it is ow-
 “ ing to this kind of policy, that by
 “ means of our community (entirely de-
 “ voted to his service) the supreme head
 “ of our catholic church has been chiefly

“ enabled to rule the hearts of princes, to
 “ sway their cabinet councils, and to reign
 “ in the most distant states, perhaps more
 “ absolutely and more effectually than ever
 “ the emperors of Rome did over the con-
 “ quered nations of the subject earth.
 “ Their government was confined to Eu-
 “ rope, Asia, and Africa, and many of
 “ the two last states scarcely knew their
 “ names, or imagined that such an em-
 “ pire existed. Amidst all their boasted
 “ conquests, the victorious Romans ne-
 “ ver so much as dreamed of the new
 “ world. But the sovereign pontiff has,
 “ by our means, extended the church’s
 “ dominions over the vast Atlantic ocean.
 “ And the society of Jesus, to shew its ex-
 “ tensive sway, and what it can do, inde-
 “ pendent of any other power on earth,
 “ has, on the western continent, on max-
 “ ims of the soundest policy, established
 “ a happy and a lasting dominion, which
 “ exists even in the very centre of the
 “ realms of the most powerful princes in-
 “ deed, to whom they pay but the mere
 “ shadow of a ceremonious obedience.
 “ Thither

" Thither, if ever fortune should frown
 " upon them in Europe, as some have
 " pretended to foresee, and if heaven
 " should withdraw its protection from
 " them in the Christian world, thither
 " they mean to retire, to make those fer-
 " tile lands their seat of residence, and on
 " the pleasant banks of the American
 " plata to join their brethren, who govern
 " there over a numerous and a willing
 " people."—

Gaspar, perceiving Gonsalvo to pause
 here, having a desire to hear more of this
 establishment of the Jesuits in America,
 of which he had read some imperfect ac-
 count, requested his companion to pro-
 ceed, who, willing to oblige him, thus
 continued his discourse.

" There is nothing more honourable
 " than that desire of knowledge, which
 " every one may observe in you, except
 " it be the willingness which you shew
 " to receive instructions, and to confess
 " where your own information are not so
 " perfect as you could wish them. I shall
 " thererfore, now I have a leisure hour,

“ the more readily accord to your re-
 “ quest, and give you a faithful relation,
 “ which I myself know to be true,
 “ having resided some years upon the
 “ very spot.

“ The country called *Paraguay*, in-
 “ cluding a vast tract of land in the
 “ southern hemisphere, was first found by
 “ John de Solis, grand pilot of Castille,
 “ by one of those accidents which have
 “ often been the primary means of grand
 “ discoveries, when he sailed from Spain
 “ in the year 1516, to complete the sur-
 “ vey of the coast of Brazil, which had
 “ been first found out by the Portuguese,
 “ sixteen years before that period. This
 “ man, who was one of the ablest navi-
 “ gators of his time, suffering himself to
 “ be deceived by the friendly signals, made
 “ to him by the natives of that then in-
 “ hospitable country, was imprudent
 “ enough to trust himself on shore with a
 “ few of his followers, and paid his
 “ life for his error. The savages, as soon
 “ as they had deluded them far enough to
 “ intercept their return to their vessel, put
 “ them

“ them to death ; and, as the writers of
 “ those times affirm, roasted and eat their
 “ carcasses in the sight of their compa-
 “ nions, who put to sea immediately, and
 “ returned to Spain, little satisfied with
 “ this their first discovery of Paraguay,
 “ and its inhuman inhabitants.

“ A few years afterwards some Portu-
 “ guese, who were bent upon expeditions
 “ of this nature, unhappily penetrated into
 “ the country, and met with a fate almost
 “ as tragical, some being butchered, and
 “ others drowned by the barbarous In-
 “ dians. Notwithstanding all which, Se-
 “ bastian Cabot, in 1526, sailing south-
 “ ward with a fleet of five ships, took
 “ possession of some parts of this country,
 “ and built forts in it, and from that æra
 “ the Spanish settlements there may be
 “ first dated. To give you only a sum-
 “ mary of the evils the colonists had to
 “ encounter with in the beginning, would
 “ take more time than would weary
 “ the most patient and attentive person.
 “ Suffice it to say, they found the natives
 “ beyond expression barbarous, idolatrous,
 “ E 4 “ whore-

"whoremongers, drunkards, murderers,
 "delighting, as it is said, in devouring
 "human flesh, and, in short, given to every
 "enormous vice that human nature is
 "capable of, in its most abandoned and
 "uncivilized state. It is true, after
 "the expence of much blood and trea-
 "sure from time to time, our country-
 "men at last made some respectable settle-
 "ments among them; but they never
 "could thoroughly acquire the confi-
 "dence of those they subjected, or live
 "in harmony with the neighbouring In-
 "dians, much less spread the gospel among
 "them, till the Jesuits were sent for
 "thither, in the year 1581, who no sooner
 "arrived, than they shewed the Spaniards
 "that they had all along mistaken their
 "mark, when by violence alone they
 "thought to keep in awe and order, with
 "an handful of men, such an extensive
 "territory. They represented to them,
 "that they had been guilty of an error,
 "similar to that of the first conquerors of
 "of Peru and Mexico, whereby they must
 "necessarily live in a state of perpetual
 "war

“ war with the natives of those lands
 “ which they had settled upon, or their
 “ neighbours and allies; and in the end,
 “ should they meet with never so much
 “ success in it, could have no better ex-
 “ pectations than to see the country re-
 “ duced to a mere desert. They told
 “ them also, that the method they made
 “ use of in making slaves of these free
 “ people, would never answer any good
 “ good end for his Catholic majesty’s ser-
 “ vice, or their own. In effect, the many
 “ conversions they made, and the good
 “ disposition they inspired in the natives,
 “ were soon the incontestible proofs of
 “ their assertions. But, as adversaries are
 “ deaf to admonition, they found them-
 “ selves perpetually thwarted by those to
 “ whom the idea of an Indian and a slave
 “ were the same thing, and who were at
 “ liberty to indulge their own laziness by
 “ the forced labours of these unhappy
 “ people. At length, after many alterca-
 “ tions and various representations being
 “ made of the matter on both sides to his
 “ majesty, and to the great council of the

“ Indies, our fathers got a grant for civi-
 “ lizing the wild Indians, who were de-
 “ clared *free*, and reducing them to such
 “ order as they should think most proper.
 “ As soon as they had received this, they
 “ set themselves most indefatigably about
 “ the great work, and presently shewed,
 “ notwithstanding all the obstacles that
 “ they met with, that their scheme was far
 “ from chimerical. By degrees they en-
 “ gaged the natives to quit their woods,
 “ and drew them into towns and regulated
 “ districts, instructed them in the grand
 “ truths of religion, taught them to sow
 “ their lands, and by moderate labour to
 “ earn a *certain* subsistence in the room of
 “ that *precarious* one, which they had
 “ hitherto granted, only by such rude
 “ methods of a savage life. All this,
 “ and more, they brought to bear by their
 “ unwearied diligence, and at length, to
 “ complete the benefits they conferred
 “ upon the poor Indians; they obtained
 “ leave from the court of Spain, to put
 “ into their hands fire-arms, to defend
 “ them against the surrounding In-
 “ dians,

"dians, and as barbarous Portuguese,
 "who annoyed them. Incredible were
 "the obstacles they had to surmount,
 "which were invented by the ill habits of
 "the Paraguayans, their stupid dulness,
 "and seemingly invincible aversion to la-
 "bour. And, lest these should not be
 "sufficient to try their patience, the holy
 "fathers were perpetually vexed by the
 "Spaniards there, who were continually
 "representing them and their Indians as
 "rebels to the court of Spain, and who
 "often also went so far as to form parties
 "that even deposed their governors,
 "on such pretences that they were, in the
 "course of these commotions, vilified,
 "their rights trampled on, and themselves
 "expelled from their college; but bear-
 "ing all with a Christian patience, they
 "were as often reinstated, and the malice
 "of their enemies confounded. Yet to
 "this day there are those who hold them
 "in a most infamous light, and notwith-
 "standing all the services they have really
 "rendered to the king of Spain, consider
 "them and their converts as rebels, and

“ if they could sway the Spanish counsels,
 “ would certainly have them treated ac-
 “ cordingly.—But now, not to detain you
 “ too long, I will speak of the present
 “ state to which they have brought the
 “ nations committed to their charge, and
 “ leave you to form a judgment accord-
 “ ingly.

“ They have brought them to submit
 “ to a regular police, and to live distri-
 “ buted in divisions, or parishes, which
 “ they call reductions, and which amount-
 “ ed, when I resided there, to thirty in
 “ number, each of which has generally
 “ two Jesuits, who act both in a civil and
 “ religious capacity, by whose approba-
 “ tion their civil and military officers are
 “ chosen from among themselves, schools
 “ are erected for the education of their
 “ youth, and shops for all manner
 “ of trade. These fathers first taught
 “ them the use of agriculture, and have
 “ often been known themselves to assist in
 “ the most laborious parts of it. By their
 “ direction churches have been established
 “ in their districts, which vie with each
 “ other

“ other in magnificence, and yield to few
 “ of the best constructed in Spain, either
 “ for the elegance of their architecture, or
 “ the decorations that are seen within.
 “ These people, once so dull, have now
 “ gained at least so much knowledge of
 “ the mechanic arts, that they can imitate
 “ any pattern, and make any attempt
 “ required of them as soon as ever they
 “ are given the sight of one to copy from.
 “ But what is most to be remembered is,
 “ they are so far from retaining any of their
 “ native fierceness, that they are become
 “ the most mild and tractable of the hu-
 “ man race; and when any of them de-
 “ serve punishment, which, however, is
 “ never known to amount to any thing
 “ capital, these good proselytes, instead
 “ of being angry with their judges, are
 “ the first themselves to approve the chas-
 “ tisement; nay, they are often known
 “ most earnestly to solicit it.

“ The streets of their towns or districts
 “ are in general pretty large, and in the
 “ midst of each there is a square, where
 “ the militia, which the fathers have esta-
 “ blished,

“ blished, and which consists of several
 “ bands of brave men, who have often
 “ faced, and are again ready to face an
 “ enemy, whenever they shall be called
 “ upon, are exercised every week. The
 “ missionaries houses are situated next the
 “ churches; and the storehouses, work-
 “ shops, and repositories of the corn and
 “ goods of the public, are on the same
 “ line with them, and make altogether a
 “ very agreeable appearance.

“ The Jesuits have succeeded so well in
 “ their arduous undertaking, as to make
 “ these Indians live together like one well-
 “ regulated family. There are no quar-
 “ rels nor law-suits among them; and
 “ the word *property* is unknown, as far
 “ as it respects each other: and with re-
 “ gard to the inhabitants of other parts,
 “ they supply the defects of money by the
 “ ancient method of barter, and of gold
 “ and silver, though plentiful enough be-
 “ stowed on their churches by the fathers,
 “ at whose disposal these metals remain;
 “ and who are the sole regulators of every
 “ thing that concerns their tribes, in a
 “ civil

“ civil and military, as well as in a re-
 “ ligious capacity.

“ They are liable to the visitations of
 “ the bishops; but these seldom trouble
 “ the reductions, on account of the
 “ fatigues they are likely to undergo on
 “ the journey. The Jesuits also, after
 “ many altercations, have agreed to a
 “ small tribute, by way of poll-tax, to
 “ the Catholic king, whose governors are
 “ nominally acknowledged, but seldom
 “ care to meddle with the Indians, except
 “ in cases where they want their assistance;
 “ the rest the fathers look upon as their
 “ department, and will not be obstructed
 “ in the execution of their office. Those
 “ who have attempted to interfere with
 “ them, have in general paid dearly
 “ for their boldness; nor have these legis-
 “ lators been able to establish themselves
 “ without bloodshed, as their enemies
 “ have often witnessed to their cost, who
 “ have been, however, the cause of their
 “ misfortunes.

“ As

" As the natural laziness of the Indi-
 " ans was one of the great obstacles our
 " society had to surmount, so they are
 " ever particularly attentive to keep up
 " the plan of industry which they have
 " set on foot; and, to this end, the inha-
 " bitants have certain tasks assigned them,
 " which they are obliged to fulfil, under
 " pain of severer labour; and in all their
 " works they have overseers set, to take
 " care that they perform them with dili-
 " gence.

" Besides their attention to agriculture,
 " and the mechanic arts, they also carry
 " on a trade in wax, honey, and other
 " commodities, in exchange for which
 " they are supplied with such necessaries
 " as they do not possess within themselves.
 " The women as well as the men have
 " their tasks ascertained, which they are
 " likewise under an obligation to fulfil.
 " At the beginning of every week, each
 " of them receives a quantity of wool and
 " cotton, which she is to return ready for
 " the loom on Saturday night; and besides
 " this,

“ this, they frequently put them to other
 “ little occupations suitable to their sex,
 “ and which are such as may not exceed
 “ their abilities.

“ As to the article of religion, as far
 “ as their capacities are able to compre-
 “ hend its mysteries, there are not more
 “ zealous profelytes in the world. The
 “ Jesuits, with their usual address, having
 “ made its duties in a great measure the
 “ source of pleasure to the Indians, which
 “ is increased whenever they consider
 “ that such duties are discharged at times
 “ when they rest from their labours; a
 “ circumstance that carries no small
 “ weight with a people who have yet
 “ scarcely conquered their natural aver-
 “ sion to work of any kind.

“ Above all things, the Neophytes are
 “ remarkable for their fidelity and attach-
 “ ment to the society, whom they look
 “ upon as their fathers, and almost adore
 “ as their guardian angels; and (though
 “ such an event were far from being a de-
 “ firable one) yet it is certain, that, were
 “ there an open rupture between them
 “ and

“ and the government, these proselytes
 “ would stand by their legislators to the
 “ last drop of blood in their veins, and
 “ will ever afford them an asylum in their
 “ country, whatever might befall them
 “ in any other part of the world.

“ This, my Gaspar, is the land of
 “ wonder and of riches, concerning which
 “ our enemies have raised so many scan-
 “ dals, asserting that we have opposed
 “ our lawful sovereign, and are grown
 “ wealthy at the expence of the poor in-
 “ habitants ; but they are not so immensely
 “ rich as they are represented, * though

* Notwithstanding the gloss here given to the matter, and the accounts published by these fathers, yet many writers of good authority inform us, that all the result of the labours of the Neophytes are entirely the property of the Jesuits, who subsist them out of it only in the plainest and coarsest manner ; that these fathers are excessively wealthy, and that not only the churches, as they themselves allow, shine with precious metals, but also that their houses are superb palaces, full of costly furniture, and even glitter with coverings of gold ; and this seems far the most probable. However, we must allow the society to have proved themselves able legislators, and at least their yoke is more supportable than that of the Spaniards.

“ it

" it is (certain all the lands and property
 " being in their hands) they can become
 " so when they please; but to give an
 " answer that may stop these mens mouths.
 " Whatever they do possess, which, I will
 " own, is considerable, and whatever they
 " may possess in this land, which is both
 " naturally and morally a paradise, and
 " and land of promise, surely they must
 " be allowed abundantly to deserve it all,
 " since by their means alone it became
 " worth possessing.

" Thus have I finished my description,
 " and have been the more exact in giving
 " you this account, that it may serve to
 " furnish you with an idea of the grandeur
 " of their designs, and extensiveness of
 " their plans, which, however, could never
 " have been brought to such perfection,
 " if they had not always taken care to
 " have ranked men of wit and wealth
 " among their number, in all ages since
 " their first institution. At this day, as I
 " hinted to you before, they continue to
 " adopt the same plan, and by so doing,
 " are enabled to repel the attacks which
 " their

“ their enemies have thought would be fa-
 “ tal, and which are made upon them
 “ even by princes, and to maintain a su-
 “ periority unknown to any other society
 “ in the world. . . . Into such a community
 “ are you now entered; and besides be-
 “ ing a regular clergyman, you are to
 “ consider yourself as a member of this
 “ body, and, in all your words and actions,
 “ to keep their interest in view, which
 “ will be for the glory of the church, and
 “ all her members, and cannot fail to be
 “ your own in the end; while you will
 “ find those studies that must fit you for
 “ a Jesuit, to be such as will likewise fit
 “ you for any other station of life, which,
 “ in the course of your mission, you may
 “ be obliged to assume; in short, to render
 “ you capable of every duty in life, and a
 “ citizen of the world in the extensive and
 “ truest sense of the word, as you will be
 “ instructed in all the various ways of
 “ mankind, which you will be taught to
 “ render yourself agreeable to by your
 “ assiduities, and to rule by being well
 “ versed in their different interests, and
 “ by

“ by knowing how to turn their tempers
 “ and passions to your own advantage.”

After this, Gonsalvo proceeded to instruct his pupil farther in the particular circumstances of their present mission, and to give him some continued lectures similar to such as we have set down, which would be tedious for us to recite, yet were the very ground-work on which he formed the plan of that conduct from which he never deviated whilst he went through the course of his mission. But, in order to give a better idea of the nature of these fathers, it may not be amiss, in this place, to give an account of their primary institution in its origin, which will be necessary, if the reader has not seen it; and if he has, will serve to refresh his memory.

IGNATIUS LOYOLA, the founder of this famous society, was originally but an ignorant person, who having a leg broken, and thereby being rendered unfit for the service, got his discharge, and, from a soldier became a notorious devotee. He then first began to study grammar, and apply
 himself

himself to the languages. In order to be accounted a holy man, and to gain the applauses of the ignorant multitude, he went barefooted, and adopted such a strange manner of living, as occasioned him to be ridiculed by the students of Salamanca, and other colleges in Spain. Perceiving this, he travelled into France, and, arriving at Paris, met with a better reception. He there joined ten companies, with whom he set out for Italy, in the year 1537, being about sixteen years after he had obtained his discharge from the army. It was in the popedom of Paul III. that his society, called Jesuits, were first known in Italy, though they did not gain ground there without much opposition. In the year 1538, being all assembled at Rome, they received the privilege of hearing confessions, and obtained a confirmation of their establishment from the holy see. In 1540, they had a licence granted them to augment their company from ten to the number of sixty persons. Three years afterwards, another licence was given them, to receive as many

as they would ; and in the year 1545, the same pope Paul III. whom we have mentioned, granted to their society all those privileges which at present they enjoy.

Their founder Ignatius afterwards built in Rome the college of Alemain, to instruct, as he said, the youth of that city, and to guard them against the errors of what he termed Lutheran heresy. This extraordinary man, from so small a beginning, lived to see six provincials of his own institution, and more than seventy colleges, and died at Rome in the year of our Lord 1546, and in the sixty-first of his own age, being twenty-four years after his first setting out for Italy, with his ten companions, and eleven from its establishment by pope Paul III.

Such was the rapid progress which this sect made in the Christian church, by the unwearied assiduity of its founder, who, at the first, suffered a kind of martyrdom by the scorn and censures of his opposers, and the obstacles which they were perpetually throwing in his way ; but having at last gained his end, he left behind him a society

society that has spread itself almost all over the habitable world, and that has been able abundantly to repay the apostolic see for the protection granted to their founder, having been ever since its avowed champions in all countries, and approved themselves ever ready to execute its commands, and execute the will of the sovereign pontiff, even though it should oblige them to remove to the remotest regions of the earth.

So much we have thought proper to say of the first institution of the Jesuits; but now, lest our digression should seem too long, we will break off here, and resume the thread of our history.

CHAP.

C H A P. VII.

Farther Adventures of the Travellers at the Inn, with an Account of whom they met with there, besides the Person already mentioned.

WHILE the two fathers were yet discoursing, they heard the sound of horses stopping at the door, when looking out, they perceived one alight, whom at first sight both of them thought they knew; and, on a nearer view, Gaspar discovered him to be his old patron the vicar Narbonne. Being eager to speak to him, he immediately opened the door, and accosted him by his name. The priest, at first, not recollecting him, returned the compliment coldly, saying, in the French language, "Holy father (for himself was dressed in a lay habit) I have not the honour of knowing your reverence's person, though I think I have somewhere heard your voice; but indeed I am known to many people, whom I am not myself acquainted with." "How," cried his

quondam clerk, "is it possible then that
 "you should so soon have forgotten your
 "faithful servant Gaspar de Vega, who
 "attended you in so many adventures,
 "and shared in your misfortunes?" At
 the name of Gaspar he stood a while in a
 pause, as one recollecting himself, then sud-
 denly starting from his reverie, embraced
 him, exclaiming, "What my friend and
 "disciple Gaspar taking up the clerical
 "habit, just when I am laying it down!
 "this is what I must own I could not
 "have expected, after all that had
 "passed while you were in my service."
 "— It is to our common friend Signor
 "Bertram de Torres," replied the Jesuit,
 "that I am what you see me; but pray
 "favour me and this my father compa-
 "nion, the learned Gonsalvo, with your
 "company, as your misadventure was
 "known to both of us, oblige us with the
 "recital of its consequences, which indeed
 "I long to be acquainted with, since I
 "cannot but imagine myself concerned
 "in the termination of an event, in which I
 "had so great a share, though much
 "against

“against my will, in the bringing about,
 “and which gave me as well as yourself
 “so much pain and anxiety, as your
 “friend Bertram can fully inform you.”

Narbonnez having no particular reason
 for keeping secret from his friend, what
 was known all over Saragossa, complied
 with his request, and accordingly began
 with his relation in the following manner,
 which easily claimed the serious and silent
 attention of both our reverend travel-
 lers:—

“When I was cited to appear before
 “the court of inquisition at Saragossa, the
 “fathers at first only made me pass
 “through a very slight examination, af-
 “ter which the inquisitor ordered me to
 “be conveyed to a little dark cell in their
 “prison, where I was confined for two
 “days, and fed only with bread and water,
 “having the bare ground for my seat, and
 “straw for my bed, a change which you
 “may think agreed but ill with my con-
 “stitution, after the manner of living
 “which I had been accustomed to. On

"the third morning, however, I was
 "called again before them, and after re-
 "examination, sent to a better place of
 "confinement, where I had a bed, a ta-
 "ble, a chair, and almost every other
 "necessary, together with good plain
 "food, and a little closet filled with books;
 "though the use of pen, ink, and paper
 "was denied me. Here I remained for
 "above five months, before the court pro-
 "ceeded to take the depositions, and
 "called me to receive my sentence.—I
 "then found that the chief crime I had
 "committed was not the trick I had put
 "upon Don Guzman, in procuring to
 "myself the possession of that haughty
 "beauty his wife, but the freedom I had
 "taken in using the name and authority of
 "the holy office, in bringing the matter
 "to bear. It was this alone that they
 "could not pardon; for this they were re-
 "solved to give me some punishment;
 "though I will own to you, it was less
 "than I expected. It was indeed pro-
 "nounced with all the solemnity of a ca-
 "pital

"hospital one; for that court has this art
 "peculiar to themselves, of making the
 "merest trifles appear matters of conse-
 "quence, by the manner in which they
 "treat them. I kneeled before these very
 "reverend fathers, whilst one of them first
 "harangued me on the heinousness of the
 "offence I had committed, in scandalizing
 "the holy office, and usurping their au-
 "thority; then sprinkling ashes on my
 "bare head, and in my face, commanded
 "me to hear their censure, which was by
 "the grand inquisitor most solemnly pro-
 "nounced against me. In effect, I was
 "ordered to be divested of all the sacer-
 "dotal dignities, absolved from my priestly
 "vow, and confined in one of the pri-
 "sons of the holy office during pleasure.
 "—This was the public sentence. But a
 "few hours afterwards, I was called for
 "again, and told, that they had deter-
 "mined this confinement should last for
 "twelve months, after which, I was to
 "be set at liberty; but I was given to un-
 "derstand, at the same time, that though
 "they did not pretend to banish me, it

As was expected I should never again ap-
 pear in that part of the country, as I
 dreaded their displeasure. When I had
 heard all this, I was remanded to my
 former place of confinement, where I
 was obliged to spend the year allotted,
 after which I was set at liberty indeed,
 but found myself in no very agreeable
 situation. It was midnight, and I was
 turned into the street with not a single
 mareved in my pocket. During my
 imprisonment, I had found no want of
 money, being maintained at the ex-
 pence of my judges; but it was now
 far otherwise: I found myself exposed
 to the inclemencies of the weather, with-
 out knowing whither to betake myself
 for immediate shelter and refreshment.
 My house was at the other end of the
 city; thither I bent my course, hoping
 I might find some there who would
 know me. But I was entirely ignorant
 of what had happened: A great part
 of my effects had been seized, by what
 authority I knew not, upon my con-
 viction: the rest my servants had se-
 cured,

"cured, and taken away, together with
 "their own persons. The dwelling was
 "in possession of strangers, who absolutely
 "refused me even the shelter of a shed
 "before their door, to cover me from the
 "rain. I now knew not which way to
 "proceed; for I was expressly ordered to
 "quit Saragossa before day-light, and by
 "a tribunal which I dreaded more than
 "those of the king of Spain and both the
 "Indies, I withdrew reluctantly from
 "my late dwelling, while the increasing
 "storm roared loudly round my head, and
 "was directing my course towards the
 "outskirts of the city, wishing for my
 "prison again, when I met with the very
 "person whom you, my Gaspar, have
 "named, and who recommended you to
 "my service. At the sight of the badge
 "of the inquisition, by the light of a
 "lantern which hung in a porch, I was
 "about to withdraw at first; but he
 "nimble stepping to me, soon discovered
 "himself to be my friend, whose good of-
 "fices I doubted not had been employed
 "for me with the inquisitors. In effect,

" I found he had used all the interest he
 " could in such a case, without the hazard
 " of exposing himself to the suspicion of
 " being an accomplice in a crime, of the
 " very commission of which he was really
 " ignorant, and for which he now severely
 " reproved me. But having taken me
 " home to his house, in despite of the in-
 " quisition, he now informed me that he
 " had done me a great piece of service,
 " which I little expected, and which at
 " once revived me from despair.—" It is
 " well, said he, that I chanced to meet
 " you: I knew not the time of your en-
 " largement, or I would have thrown
 " myself on purpose in your way; but
 " now chance has done that for us, in
 " which prudence must have failed. I
 " had been all the former part of the
 " night employed on an expedition for the
 " inquisitors, which having executed, I
 " was returning, as you see, on foot, my
 " horse being taken lame, and exposed
 " to that storm, from which I have now
 " happily sheltered you. Cheer up, my
 " my friend, I have good tidings for you.

"The greater part of your goods and
 "effects are safely lodged in my hands.
 "On your conviction, the holy office gave
 "an order to seize upon one fourth of
 "them for their use, and your mainte-
 "nance in prison. The rest had infal-
 "libly soon fallen into the hands of the
 "secular authority, (I mean as much as
 "your servants, who were employed in
 "pillaging, could not conveniently carry
 "off) had not I timely interposed, and
 "having procured to myself the charge
 "of securing them, immediately put the
 "whole under the seals of the inquisition
 "and mine. The distinction of these not
 "being known, nor the bounds to which
 "the seizure was circumscribed, I re-
 "turned within two days, and removed
 "the whole, delivering one quarter to the
 "the holy office, according to my com-
 "mission, and here are the rest, amount-
 "ing in goods and cash to one hundred
 "and sixty thousand crowns, which I am
 "happy in having preserved for you, and
 "will deliver the whole, or any part of
 "it, into the hands of any whom you

" shall think fit to appoint to receive it,
 " This worthy friend kept me for three
 " days concealed in his house, at the end
 " of which he dispatched me secretly to a
 " place, where a carriage waited to con-
 " duct me whither I chose. I directed my
 " course to the borders of Spain, having
 " altered my dress and appearance, being
 " resolved to make the tour of that part
 " of my country, as I was sufficiently fur-
 " nished with money for the purpose.
 " From thence I took a fancy (after hav-
 " ing examined every thing that was cu-
 " rious in the course of my journey, and
 " stayed for several weeks in some of the
 " most remarkable places) to pass by land
 " into France. In the mean time, I found
 " that my friend Bertam had come hither
 " also by another kind of conveyance;
 " it being by accident that he had put up
 " at this inn, I came hither to seek him,
 " when I so opportunely met with you,
 " my Gaspar, and the reverend Vasquez
 " de Gonsalvo. As I find, by your dis-
 " course, that I have not been misinformed,
 " I shall stay here with pleasure till his de-
 " parture.

"parture, and accompany him to Paris,
 "whither, as I hear, he designs to travel;
 "and as I may naturally suppose you,
 "fathers, are likewise bound."

Here Narbonne finished his recital;—
 and just then a servant came to inform
 them, that Bertram de Torres was re-
 turned, and enquired for his friend. He
 was accordingly instantly admitted, and
 very agreeably surprized at the presence
 of Narbonne.—But now leaving these
 three to their private conversation, we
 will return to Madame de Sampsre, and
 acquaint the reader how she was affected
 by the intelligence which her letters con-
 tained, and what resolutions she formed
 in consequence of them, and of her un-
 happy and very extraordinary situation in
 life.

C H A P. VIII.

An Account of the Tidings Leonora received from Spain, and her Conduct thereupon.

WITH a trembling hand and palpitating heart, the uneasy lady opened the packet, which was directed to her from Seville, by the only person that knew whither she was retired, who was no other than the niece of that lady, under whose protection she had withdrawn herself to France. The first passage she had occasion to remark, was one that informed her how her two husbands had once more met in a duel, in which Don Mendez was dangerously wounded, and M. de Sampre, in consequence of the affair, had retired from Spain, just as a sentence had arrived from the pope, which annulled, for several false and trivial reasons, his marriage, and confirmed that of his rival. Whither this unaccountable Frenchman had betaken himself, was yet unknown, as the letter added; but hinted,

at

at the same time, that there were those of Don Caraffa's friends, who supposed he was set off for France, to seize his wife; to prevent which, on the other hand, several armed men were dispatched, who, however, were likely to make but little of their expedition, since they knew not where to find either of the two persons in question.—The next thing which concerned her, was a postscript, wherein she was told, that her supposed father and aunt, on the information of her nurse, had publicly disowned her, and took upon them to say, that she was the daughter of one, who was formerly a Dominican friar, but of whom, at present, no account could be obtained. Such a collection of strange matters could not fail of increasing her agitations, which were at that time so violent, that it was impossible for her to determine upon any thing;—on the contrary, she had occasion to have recourse to the assistance of her maid, who brought her some cordials, which alone prevented her fainting. The same person also informed her of the return of Bertram, which

contributed to give her some ease ; and
 recollecting her spirits, she concluded to
 defer her resolutions till she should see
 him, and hear from his mouth that secret
 which he promised to reveal to her, and
 which, considering every thing, she na-
 turally imagined must relate to her birth ;
 a circumstance which now shared her at-
 tention, with those other affairs that had
 before of themselves been sufficient to en-
 gross it. She would immediately have
 called for Bertram, and satisfied her cu-
 riosity ; but that her maid represented,
 that he was engaged in conversation with
 a friend of his, who was newly arrived,
 and as it was late, would possibly enter-
 tain him for the night, on which account
 it would be better to defer it till the morn-
 ing. By these cogent reasons the lady was
 prevailed on to with-hold her eagerness
 for the present, and endeavour to compose
 herself, after taking some necessary refresh-
 ment, to the enjoyment of that rest she
 stood in need of. But it was long before
 she could close her eyes in slumber, and
 when she did, she lay for some time the
 sport

sport of feverish dreams, till at length this vision presented itself to her troubled fancy.

She thought she stood upon the declivity of a rock, whose top reached to the clouds, and whose base was bounded on the one side by an extensive plain, on the other, by the swelling surges of the vast Atlantic, covered with stately vessels, adorned with lofty streamers, and advancing to the sound of various instruments of music, whose notes the rock returned with grateful echoes. Drawing to the shore, these vessels, each in her turn, landed their passengers, a multitude numerous as the leaves of autumn, who all by different ways attempted to climb the hill, upon whose summit appeared two structures glittering on the day, inscribed the one *To human grandeur*, the other *To human happiness*; but though the ascent at first seemed plain and easy, it presently appeared perplexed with thorns, and obstructed by frightful precipices; and many were for ever falling down them, and quickly disappeared, being lost in gulphs and

and caves, or precipitated into the deep below, till of the multitude who had essayed to climb, scarce a tenth part remained to pursue their journey with tranquillity, and these were every moment lessening in their number, by such accidents as had happened to their predecessors, and which threatened one time or other to be the lot of all. Some indeed, though often foiled, and cast from one cliff to another, still struggled hard, and preventing themselves from being utterly foiled, pursued their course through uneven ways, rough, perplexed, and difficult, but made such a dismal figure, being bruised with their fall, and torn by thorns and briars, that they were perpetual subjects for the pity of some, and contempt of others of their fellow-travellers. Among the groupe indeed appeared a few, who made a more prosperous journey to both those temples.—In the foremost rank of the train who sought the first of these edifices, sacred to human grandeur, Leonora thought a winged genius conveying her up the hill, pointed out a
 most young

young man in a priest's habit, whom, on a
 nearer view, she discovered to be her late
 confident and confessor, Gaspar de Vega,
 the hero of this history, for whose success
 she felt herself on the sudden much con-
 cerned, and presently perceived him and
 his company approach to an avenue which
 led directly to the long-wished-for goal,
 when suddenly a terrible storm arose; thick
 fogs, and clouds which rested before upon
 the pinnacle of the temple, descending,
 involved the whole building, and a vio-
 lent whirlwind issuing from its gates, car-
 ried away every thing before it. In the
 mean time the solid mountain trembled
 to its foundation, and yawning gulphs
 every where appeared, which swallowed
 numbers of the gallant adventurers; nor
 did those who sought the other fabric fare
 a bit better. For the same storm and
 earthquake reached them, and the temple
 of their goddess, touched by lightning
 from Heaven, vanished in smoke, and dis-
 solved into empty air. Amidst all this
 confusion, Leonora with her eye still care-
 fully pursued the youth, who was whirled, as
 from

from an engine with amazing violence into the boiling ocean, whilst a voice, loud as a trumpet's blast, proclaimed "Such fate attends on all who seek for happiness or greatness here below, without pursuing them through the paths of virtue!"—Then arose, as from the bottom of the sea, her two husbands, pale in countenance, and with gaping wounds, each of whom strove by turns to seize her, but were both prevented by the genius that attended her. He stretching towards the heavens a white wand, which he held in his hand, the storm ceased, the waves subsided, and the two threatening rivals changed to milk-white doves, who now winged the air, which was calm and serene. Then the same power stretching out his hand, brought Gaspar, who before was just perishing in the waves, safe to the shore, which the bright sun gilding with his rays, discovered in wide prospect. The temples were vanished, the clouds which rested on the rock removed, and it appeared now to be only one of a vast number of white cliffs which surrounded a beau-

a beautiful and fertile island, whose hills and dales, woods, lawns, and flower-enameled meadows, in full profusion, broke upon her sight. "Here then," said her guide, "and here alone, you must both at last hope for repose. This is the seat of your tranquillity, and here has Fate determined you to fix your last retreat. Farewell! Atone for past ills by penitence and amendment of life, and peace of mind may yet adorn your end."

—A peal of thunder rolling through the clear transparent æther, cloudless and serene, terminated his voice, which the aspiring cliffs re-echoed, and with the noise awakened the sleeping Leonora, who finding her maid standing at the bed-side, directed her, as soon as she arose, to go and fetch Bertram to her immediately; which was accordingly done, and our hero came with him. These two breakfasted with the lady in her chamber: she, as soon as the tea-equipage was removed, put the former in mind of his promise, who without preface, continued the relation

lation of his own adventures, (which naturally involved the points she desired to be cleared,) taking them up where he broke off, as we have seen in the former volume, and proceeding in the following manner, finished the so much wished-for and long expected relation.

C H A P. IX.

In which the Adventures of Bertram de Torres are brought to a Conclusion.

“ **A**FTER the melancholy event
 “ which I related, at the period of
 “ which I was interrupted, I wandered in all
 “ the torments of despair, as I before took
 “ notice, towards the kingdom of Por-
 “ tugal, which I entered in a wretched
 “ state both of body and mind; my per-
 “ turbation of spirits, my grief and vexa-
 “ tion, and my excessive hurry in travel-
 “ ling, having so much contributed to im-
 “ pair my health, that by the time I ar-
 “ rived at Lisbon, which I did not stop
 “ till I had reached, I fell sick, and re-
 “ mained

“mained in a very bad state of health
“for some weeks in my first lodging in
“that capital. At length the distemper
“increased to so violent a pitch, and my
“physicians had so little hopes of my re-
“covery, that they advised a confessor to
“be sent for, in order to prepare me for
“another world. This was accordingly
“done; but my landlady, who was a
“whimsical old widow, having had some
“difference with the several persons in
“the district where she lived, who were
“abetted by the parish priest, sent me a
“young Dominican friar, whom she had
“chosen to take care of her own spiritual
“concerns, and who was at that time just
“arrived from Spain. There was some-
“thing in the manner of his performing
“his function, and in his temper and ad-
“dress, which I thought very engaging.
“Having studied something of physick, he
“did not confine his assiduities to the care
“of my soul, but attended also to that of
“my body, which the sons of Æscula-
“pius seemed to have deserted, as an old
“house, that was so entirely out of re-
“pair,

" pair, that it must absolutely fall to ruin.
 " In short, he prescribed to me, and to his
 " prescriptions I owe that life I now enjoy.
 " Claudio (for that was his name) endea-
 " voured also to pour the balm of con-
 " solation into my wounded mind; and
 " he succeeded so far as to render me
 " more resigned to the will of heaven.
 " For Claudio, though, as I have told
 " you before, in the sketch I gave you
 " of his history *, was driven to many
 " excesses, had yet a good and a friendly
 " heart, and would have filled any rank
 " of life, except that of a monastic, with
 " applause. As it was, he had been guilty
 " of forging several false miracles, to
 " which purpose he had turned the excel-
 " lent wit that he possessed, in order to
 " gain to himself more liberty to practise
 " those irregularities, for which, when
 " first he took the vows, he had been se-
 " verely censured, and had now actually
 " left behind him in Spain to the care of
 " a kinsman two children, which were no

• See Vol. I.

"other

"other

“ other than yourselves, whom now I be-
 “ hold before me. . . . Soon after these ser-
 “ vices which he had done me, the young
 “ friar was called into Spain by the general
 “ of his order; but, before he obeyed
 “ the summons, we vowed an eternal
 “ friendship to each other; and when I
 “ said I knew not how to make him any
 “ returns for his goodness, and for my
 “ life, which I was twice to receive at his
 “ hands, once from his medicines and
 “ kind consolations, and a second time
 “ by a pardon, which he had promised,
 “ and well knew how to procure for
 “ me, he pressed my hand, and in the
 “ most earnest manner recommended to
 “ me the care of his son, in case he should
 “ be deserted, or death should deprive
 “ him of his protector; for well he knew,
 “ that should he himself be living, it
 “ would be little in his own power to serve
 “ him. As to you, Leonora, he thought
 “ he had so amply provided for you, that
 “ there would be no occasion to recom-
 “ mend you to the protection of any other
 “ person than Fortune had already com-
 “ mitted

"mitted you to. For it seemed that the
 "licenciate Carinus, who had the charge
 "of both of you, had sent Gaspar to be
 "taken care of at a little village in Cata-
 "lonia, carefully concealing his paren-
 "tage, while you, Leonora, had the for-
 "tune to be sent to nurse with the very
 "same woman who had the charge of the
 "daughter of Don Gabriel de Terceras,
 "who, as well as his lady, was of the
 "most passionate disposition, and both
 "were so particularly fond of this their
 "child, that they could never be recon-
 "ciled to the thoughts of its being sub-
 "ject even to the common accidents of
 "life; nor would they, if they had been
 "apprized of it, ever have permitted the
 "nurse to have taken another child but
 "their own, for the care of which,
 "(the mother not being permitted to
 "suckle it) they paid her a princely sti-
 "pend. The love of money, however,
 "prevailed with her to accept of you, and
 "as the parents of your foster-sister en-
 "joyed but an ill state of health, the mat-
 "ter was the more easily concealed. But
 "Fortune,

" Fortune, which does not always prove
 " indulgent to the favourites of mortals,
 " was now preparing a dreadful stroke for
 " the poor woman ; for this daughter of
 " Don Gabriel being left one day in the
 " cradle, before the door which opened
 " to the road, the nurse and the maid
 " being both imprudent enough to go
 " out (the latter with you in her arms.)
 " At their return, they found only an
 " empty cradle ; the other infant being ta-
 " ken away. It is needless to represent the
 " terrors of the poor woman, or the en-
 " quiries which she made, and all of which
 " proved to no purpose. At first she beat
 " her breast, and tore her hair, and played
 " the part of a madwoman ; for, not to
 " mention the great loss she must sustain
 " in her salary and continual presents, she
 " never durst think of looking the in-
 " jured and haughty parents in the face.
 " As for you, madam, as soon as she
 " was cool enough to resolve upon any
 " thing, she determined to send you back
 " to those from whose hands she received
 " you : but this too Fortune withstood ;
 VOL. II. G " for

" for on that very night you were taken
 " ill, and the sickness proved to be the
 " small-pox. The servant had impru-
 " dently carried you to a house where
 " it had lately prevailed, and you had
 " taken the infection. This circumstance
 " drove the nurse almost to absolute de-
 " spair, till, at length, the girl, who had
 " been the cause of all this mischief, told
 " her mistress that she had hit upon a re-
 " medy. And, first, she asked whether
 " Leonora (which was the name of the
 " lost child; for yours is really Eliza,
 " being so called after your mother) had
 " any particular marks upon her? The
 " other replied, that she had none when
 " you came to her; though since the
 " child having burned herself with a candle
 " on the upper part of her arm, left a mark
 " resembling a star, by which she might
 " at any time be discovered among fifty;
 " but this was entirely unknown to her
 " parents.
 " Well then," said Inis, " every thing
 " is favourable to the trick which I mean
 " you to put upon this haughty couple.
 " You

" You shall send for them hither, and
 " substituting Eliza for Leonora, you
 " shall tell them their daughter has
 " unhappily caught the small-pox. The
 " children are much alike in size, shape
 " and complexion. It is now three
 " months since they have seen their own,
 " and the very nature of the distemper is
 " such as may prevent any danger of de-
 " tection, where there will be no suspi-
 " cion, as they never knew that you had
 " more than one infant to nurse. Do this,
 " and my life for it that it passes upon
 " them; so that you may be commended
 " for your diligence, keep the disaster a se-
 " cret from those whom it concerns, and
 " if it pleases Heaven that Eliza lives, se-
 " cure to yourself the benefit of the same
 " salary which you received for the lost
 " Leonora." —

" This council pleased the nurse, who
 " punctually followed it, and it succeeded.
 " The unsuspecting parents of Leonora
 " acknowledged you for their daughter,
 " and, soon after your recovery, took
 " you home. What followed, you are

“ better acquainted with than myself ; so
 “ I shall advert to the continuation of my
 “ own history, which now has little more
 “ remarkable in it, than as it was con-
 “ nected with your father’s.

“ He being gone from Lisbon, I was
 “ received and entertained at the house of
 “ a gentleman of fortune there, in qua-
 “ lity of whose confessor he had acted,
 “ and had recommended me to him be-
 “ fore his departure. This gentleman
 “ very much solicited my stay in the do-
 “ minions of his Most Faithful ma-
 “ jesty ; but I will freely own to you, that
 “ an amour which I had with one of his
 “ daughters, who was imprudent enough
 “ to grant me favours, that I had not vir-
 “ tue sufficient to refuse, occasioned me
 “ hastily to leave Lisbon, just at the time
 “ that he was soliciting a small appointment
 “ for me at that court. Very opportunely
 “ for me, I had previously received the
 “ news that a pardon was obtained for me
 “ in my native country, which I now re-
 “ solved to return and take the advantage
 “ of. I thought myself extremely secret

“ in

"in my preparations; but what can elude
 "the piercing eyes of love. Either by
 "some paper which I dropped, or by some
 "unguarded expression which I let fall,
 "Sophia (for that was my mistress's
 "name) possessed herself of my intentions,
 "and after some tender reproaches, gave
 "me to understand, that she was no stran-
 "ger to them. She represented to me, that
 "she was in her power to betray me to
 "her father, and to draw the vengeance
 "of her whole family upon my hand;
 "but this she protested she had not the
 "least thoughts of doing; since such
 "were their strict notions of honour, that
 "not even marriage could, in their opi-
 "nion, atone for such an injury as I had
 "done them in her person: while, for
 "her own part, she declared that she
 "asked not such a recompence as to be
 "received for my consort, unless, on the
 "maturest deliberation, I should make
 "it a matter of free choice. She was
 "then with child, and her address and
 "situation were so moving, that they
 "melted me to compassion, and I thought

it but a small matter to grant her re-
 quest, which was only to accompany
 me to my own country. She did so;
 and, won by her deportment, I esteemed
 her as my own soul, and was just on
 the point of making her my wife, when
 an accident deprived me at once of her,
 and of my happiness. The very day,
 for the ceremony was fixed, when about
 a week before the time, riding out with
 myself and a relation of mine to take
 the air, she got a fall from her horse,
 which dislocated her arm. The limb
 was set, but a fever which arose from
 the pain attending it, carried her off on
 the third evening, and left me most dis-
 console. For a long time I would
 admit of no comfort, and was on the
 point of following her, when at last rea-
 son vanquished this excess of grief, I
 vowed, for her sake, never to marry any
 other woman, and this oath I have
 hitherto most religiously kept, and it is
 probable that I shall do so to the end of
 my days.
 At the time when this accident hap-
 pened,

"pened, I was about soliciting a place in
 "the customs of his catholic majesty;
 "but this gave me such a stroke, that I
 "dropped those solicitations, and thereby
 "so much offended my patron, who
 "espoused my interest in that affair, being
 "a very haughty person, that he refused
 "to renew the suit in my behalf, or to
 "have any thing farther to do with me.
 "In this distress your father was always at
 "hand to comfort me. But not long after,
 "for some offences he had either committed
 "or was suspected of, my friend was banish-
 "ed, and not even allowed time to speak to
 "me, or any one of his acquaintance. But
 "though absent in prison, yet he was
 "still present to my mind; and from
 "time to time I enquired after my chil-
 "dren, and received very satisfactory ac-
 "counts of them. In the interim, I set
 "up a school in a village near Saragossa,
 "and got my bread by teaching the lan-
 "guages. Above ten years I had spent in
 "this profession, when I became ac-
 "quainted with a secular priest, who was
 "one of the qualifiers of the inquisi-
 "tion,

tion, and who had often promised to
 endeavour to do me some service;
 though I had been so long used to the
 world, that I did not depend much
 upon professions. The methods which
 he took to oblige me was such an one
 as put me into no small confusion; for
 one morning, before I was dressed, a
 messenger from the holy office came to
 command my presence. It is true they
 did not bind me as a prisoner; but I
 was in too great a perturbation of mind
 to attend to that circumstance, but gave
 myself over for lost when I entered the
 hall of the court of the inquisition, and
 found myself strictly interrogated con-
 cerning religious matters. However, I
 was very agreeably disappointed, when
 I found, after much questioning, that
 all the holy fathers intended was for my
 advantage, and that they intended to
 admit me one of their familiars, and on
 account of the recommendation of my
 good friend the priest to allow me
 a greater stipend, than any other in
 the same office had hitherto been grati-
 fied

" died with. This was a very agreeable
 " circumstance to me, and the more so,
 " as it came unexpectedly, which was
 " likewise the case with another piece of
 " good luck that happened about the
 " same time: this was no other than a
 " legacy which Don Patricio, dying, was
 " considerate enough to leave me, though,
 " when living, he would not look upon
 " me.

" Favoured as I was by Fortune, I was
 " not willing to forget my friend. Though
 " of him I could hear no tidings, I was
 " resolved to enquire after his children.
 " Eliza, I found, was provided for by a sup-
 " posed aunt of hers; but as to you, Gas-
 " par, I heard that Claudio's kinsman be-
 " ing just then dead, you were likely to
 " be deserted. It was from me that the
 " gentleman called, who at that time en-
 " quired into your circumstances: it was
 " from me that the money came, which
 " you made bold to take away with you;
 " it was I that got your fellow traveller
 " apprehended; it was I that attended and
 " watched over you unseen, and regulated as
 " much

" much as possible your conduct ; till,
 " at last, I brought you into that society,
 " which, the only time that I ever heard
 " from your father, I understood he
 " would wish you to belong to. At pre-
 " sent, I know not where he is ; all that I
 " can tell you is, that he has quitted Na-
 " ples, whither he had retired about six
 " months since, and has never since been
 " heard of by his friends and acquaintance
 " there.

" Having given you this account, one
 " thing only remains, which is, as this
 " lady is proved to be really your sister,
 " to unravel to you the mystery of Donna
 " Palsenza's birth, whom at one time you
 " supposed to stand in that relation to
 " you. In order to this, it will be neces-
 " sary to inform you, that Don Gabriel
 " de Terceras, before his marriage with
 " his lady, had a natural son by the
 " niece of an old tradesman in Seville.
 " The child, by one of the strange sports
 " of fortune, which often delights in per-
 " plexing blind mortals, was nursed by
 " the same nurse, and afterwards com-

" mitted

"mitted to the care of the very same cot-
 "ragers who bred up you, Gaspar; but,
 "after having remained there for about
 "three years, was taken from them before
 "you were placed under their care, a cir-
 "cumstance which coming to the know-
 "ledge of Donna Pascenza, as she was
 "called (though in reality the true Leo-
 "nora) determined her to conclude you
 "to be that brother. It was but just be-
 "fore she met with you that this lady
 "came (by means of one of the most
 "indulgent of husbands) to know her own
 "true parentage, which you find she has
 "since claimed, and which has occasioned,
 "by that nurse's means, the present rejec-
 "tion of your real sister. The affair was
 "this: Some wandering beggars had
 "stolen Leonora out of her cradle, and
 "sold her, afterwards, when she grew to
 "about nine years of age, to a woman,
 "who made a market of beauty, and per-
 "ceiving her to have a fine shape, and
 "good features and complexion, not-
 "withstanding the hard usage to which
 "she had been so long exposed, purchased

her with the view of disposing of her
 charms, in a few years, to the best ad-
 vantage. She tried it when her charge
 attained her thirteenth year; but the
 person attempting her virtue, finding a
 vigorous resistance, was curious to know
 the cause, and being, from her own
 mouth informed of all that she knew of
 her story, rescued her from the pro-
 cure, and placed her with a female
 cousin of his, who bred her up in a
 genteel manner; and though he never
 after solicited her favours, yet, dying,
 he left her about four thousand crowns
 as a legacy, with a view that it might
 provide her with a husband: a husband,
 however, was already provided, in the
 person of Don Pedrillo de Ambrosini,
 who fell in love with her at her new
 guardian's house at Saragossa, and soon
 afterwards married her. It was he who,
 at her instigation, with much pains,
 after a tedious search, found out the
 beggar-woman who sold her, caused
 her to be apprehended, and, by that
 method, drew from her a full con-
 fession

"fession how she came by the child,
 "which naturally led to such a discovery
 "as made Pafcenza, (after she had heard
 "what you reported of yourself and of
 "your own birth) suppose that you were
 "the natural son of Don Gabriel de Fer-
 "reras, and consequently her brother.
 "But it was not then that she thought
 "proper to avow her descent. That is a
 "matter which she has concerted since,
 "when instead of retiring, as she seemed
 "resolved, to a monastery, she thought
 "proper to marry a second husband, for
 "whose satisfaction she was at the pains
 "to find out the nurse, who being taken
 "at unawares, acknowledged her for
 "Don Gabriel's daughter, and was there-
 "upon compelled to go with her to that
 "gentleman, and attest it, upon the proofs
 "given her, and above all, by that star-
 "like mark upon her arm, whereby she
 "was to be distinguished. And this is
 "the cause, Madame de Sampre, why
 "you are disowned, and with justice de-
 "clared not to be the child of Don Ga-
 "briel: on the contrary, you are the na-
 "tural

" tural daughter of Claudio de Rivas;
 " who took the surname of de Vega, and
 " the brother of his son Gaspar, who now
 " sits beside you. As to the mother of
 " you both, after her unlawful amour,
 " she commenced a lawful one with a rich
 " merchant, and died his wife, being car-
 " ried off by the spotted fever, in the
 " thirty-fifth year of her age, leaving
 " this world intirely ignorant of what
 " had befallen you, her illegitimate off-
 " spring.

" Thus have I finished my relation, and
 " happily, in the properest juncture of
 " time, have revealed the secret I promised,
 " which at another period, perhaps, might
 " rather have made confusion, than done
 " service. At present, it has served, at
 " least, to set all mistakes to rights, and to
 " put all claims upon a right foundation.
 " Here ends my province. As for you,
 " your fates are now in your own hands,
 " and with a common share of prudence,
 " they may tend to your happiness, which
 " I shall be at any time ready, as far as
 " it lies in my power to promote." —

Here

Here Bertram ended his discourse, to the satisfaction of all present; and here we also shall end this chapter.

C H A P. X.

Gaspar and Gonsalvo pursue their Journey: The latter, after meeting with a very disagreeable Adventure, arrives at last at Paris.

AS soon as Bertram had concluded his narration, he withdrew to seek out Narbonne, who, as well as himself, was bound for Brittany; and the two friends presently agreed to accompany each other thither; and as the former was not to set out for three or four days, the other remained with him; but as the business of our fathers required a little more haste, Gaspar took leave of his new-found sister, and with two Jesuits set off in the afternoon of that day, with all expedition, for Paris.

Our

Our hero was highly pleased, that he had, at length, got the desired intelligence from his friend; and though he was still in the dark as to what was become of his father, yet he had at least the satisfaction of knowing to whom he was indebted for his being, and the hopes that he might one day or other meet with him. As for his sister, he could not indeed but commiserate her unhappy case, yet he was pleased that he had found at last who it was that stood in that relation to him; while, for my own part, he did not see any thing he could have done better than throwing himself into the arms of the church, though he was only an illegitimate offspring of one of its members. In the mean time he could not but observe the intricate methods whereby Fate had at last placed him in one of the most remarkable religious societies upon earth, and which, he doubted not, according to the account he had heard, and what he had seen of it, bade fair to last as long as Christianity should prevail in the world. This made

him

him take the more notice of the manner in which Bertram had more than once concluded his speeches, which seemed to convey a hint that it was not impossible these men, great as they were, should one day lose the ascendancy they had gained over princes, and the good opinion of half the Catholic world so far as that America might be deemed a proper place to give them shelter; and this being thrown out by a warm friend of theirs, occasioned it to carry the more weight with it. "Well then," said he to himself, "there is no thing stable upon earth. Bertram I know is wise, he possesses a great deal of foresight. There must be some cause for the suspicion. He has either concealed that cause, or, perhaps, given an untrue account: If it be so, this is not the only time that he has revealed part of a thing, and for private reasons kept the rest concealed within his own bosom. A shew of sincerity, with a real reservedness, are the marks, it seems, of a prudent person. Well, then, I will strive to attain a similar conduct.

" It

"It will render me the more fit for the
 "community of which I am become
 "member . . . doubtless THAT must be every
 "where respected."

While he thus continued musing as he
 rode, he found himself suddenly, as he
 waked from his reverie, alone, in the midst
 of a thick wood, and entirely at a loss
 which way to direct his course; a circum-
 stance which gave him no small uneasiness,
 as it was now sun-set, and he was in a
 strange country. He endeavoured to trace
 the paths by which he had first arrived
 in this place, but had little cause to con-
 gratulate himself upon his success. He
 rode backwards and forwards, to the
 right-hand and to the left, but in vain;
 and night came fast upon him, while he
 was thus employed. As soon as darkness
 approached, he found more reason than
 ever to be uneasy, as a savage noise ac-
 costed his ears, which he immediately con-
 cluded to be no other than the howling of
 wolves, which are plentiful enough in
 France, and have sometimes proved de-
 structive to unwary travellers. This per-
 plexed

plexed our missionary more than ever. He guided his horse, as he thought, as far distant as possible from the quarter whence the sound proceeded; but as it often falls out with the wisest amongst us, that we run upon the very danger we strive to shun, chusing the very opposite conduct to that which we ought to adopt; so it happened to Galpar; and without any defect of prudence, he so far mistook the path he should have pursued to avoid the wolves, that he fell in with two of the fiercest of these animals. Unarmed as he was, the sight of their fiery eyes, and jaws distilling blood, could not fail most cruelly to alarm him. He saw he must depend on his horse alone. But before he had time to recover himself, the animal, affrighted at the sight of the wolves, without waiting for the management of his rider, let off upon a full gallop, and our hero found it impossible to stop him, till he had pulled the reins out of his hand, and carried him through thorns and briars, and the roughest ways quite through the wood; then he made towards a road which presented it-
 self;

self; but his fright still continuing, did not
 perceive a ditch which lay across his way
 till he was close upon it, and in attempting
 by a sudden spring to pass it, he with
 much difficulty cleared it, but threw his
 rider, who fell into the midst of it, and
 found but a disagreeable bed in a muddy
 pool, lined with thorns and brambles,
 which alone prevented him from finding
 his way to the bottom, a danger with
 which he was threatened every time that
 his weight occasioned them to give way;
 and indeed he continued sinking for some
 time, insomuch that from within three feet
 of the surface where he fell at first, he was
 now beyond the depth of a fathom, and
 almost choaked with mud and filth, lay
 like one who was already numbered with
 the dead, though, unhappily for him, he
 had not lost the sense of his painful situa-
 tion, when two travellers passed along
 the road, beside which this ditch lay,
 to whom he could give no other sign than
 that of his groans that he was in such a
 melancholy condition. The moon, which
 was by this time risen, however, gleamed
 upon

upon him as he lay, and discovered him to those who came by. They were two farmers from the neighbouring country, who seeing a man in the ditch, were just about to help him out, when one of them observed his habit, and exclaimed, "No! no! this is no business for us to be troubled with! Neighbour, let us not meddle with this man."—"Why what is the matter?" demanded his companion. "Have you lost the use of your eyes?" said the first speaker, "Do you not perceive what profession he is of?"—On this the other, inspecting him more closely, said, while he held up his hands as well as he was able;—"Oh! this is well enough; he is a Jesuit, an hypocritical pretender to sanctity, and severity of life, a follower of Ignatius. There let him lie, and see whether his saint will come and help him out."—Poor Gaspar then lifting up his head as well as he could, groaned most piteously. "Now," said the youngest of the two farmers, "were this man a thief, an enemy, or even an heathen; in short, any thing
" but

"but what he is, I really could almost
 "pity him." "Pity the D—!" replied
 the elder. "Can you remember how
 "father Maillebois debauched your sister,
 "or how his companion accused me to
 "the governor, and even talk of pity where
 "a Jesuit is concerned? This is doubt-
 "less one of the gang, who being upon
 "some wicked expedition, misfortune has
 "overtaken him on the way. But since
 "he is not totally deprived of his senses,
 "let us repeat the dialogue in his hearing
 "that passed between two peasants of Nor-
 "mandy, when they had caught one of
 "these vermin in a trap made to destroy
 "rats and foxes, at the time that he was
 "about to seduce their wives." The
 other consenting, they began accordingly
 in the manner of the responses, to chaunt
 forth the following speeches, by way of
 question and answer.

Q. "What is a Jesuit?"

A. "A saint, if you will take his
 "own word for it, and an agent of the
 "highest heavens; but if you will be-
 "lieve that of other men, a son of fraud
 "and

“and deceit; a very child of hell, and
“a factor for the devil.”

Q. “What evil have these men been
“the authors of?”

A. “Of far the greatest part of the
“mischiefs that have happened in the
“world since the establishment of the
“Christian religion.”

Q. “What and whom do they pretend
“to support?”

A. “The kingdom of Christ, and that
“of his vicar upon earth, and all the in-
“terests of the Catholic religion.”

Q. “And what is it really they aim
“to support?”

A. “Their own insatiate greediness,
“and the grandeur of their order, for
“which they scruple not to go through
“all the drudgery of wickedness, whilst
“for religion they would not lift a finger,
“were it not for their own immediate
“worldly advantage.”

Q. “Who render the holy Roman
“faith hateful, and themselves a proverb
“in the mouths of heretics and blas-
“phemers?”

A. “The

A. "The Jesuits."

Q. "Who disturb the councils of
"princes, robbing them of their peace,
"and often also of their lives?"

A. "The Jesuits."

Q. "Who have established themselves
"in a government of their own, in de-
"spite of their masters and all the princes
"of the earth, and appropriated to them-
"selves the service and land of the natives
"which never belonged to them, calum-
"niating, injuring, and even murdering
"those who opposed their practices?"

A. "The Jesuits."

Q. "Who have abused Science, and
"wrested logic till they have turned truth
"out of doors?"

A. "The Jesuits."

Q. "If all sects and orders of men
"were now arraigned before a just tribu-
"nal, which of them would appear to
"have the most demerits?"

A. "The Jesuits."

Q. "Who loves them?"

A. "Nobody."

Q. "Who hates them?"

A. "Every

A. "Every body."

Q. "Who have the most occasion to use them?"

A. "Knaves to serve their wicked purposes."

Q. "Who have the least?"

A. "Honest men; because they can seek no fellowship with Belial."

Q. "What is the worst thing a Jesuit can do for the public?"

A. "To offer his services to them."

Q. "What is the best thing he can do for them?"

A. "To hang himself."

Such was the dialogue which these travellers held, in the hearing of the reverend father, whose groans, at intervals, interrupted them from proceeding. — If it were possible for any thing to increase his pains, such treatment must certainly do it; and the more so, as he had not the power, nor if he had, would he have ventured to reply to them; so that they diverted themselves by moonlight in this manner, having alighted from their horses, and made them fast to some trees at a distance, while they

pursued this ceremony, which being finished, they bade him adieu, and were so far from appearing to be moved to compassion at his situation, that the unhappy father even thought he had reason to fear the elder of the two would have lent him a hand to the bottom; which, if he had done, our poor Gaspar must certainly have perished, and this which we are now writing would have proved the last page of his melancholy history. But Fate had decreed otherwise, and had reserved him to other trials.—A company of young people belonging to a neighbouring village, who had been abroad holiday-making, espied him as they were returning home, and were kind enough to relieve him, and having lifted him up, and cleansed the filth from his face, desired him to use his own efforts to disengage the lower parts of his body, which he did accordingly; but, on perceiving his habit, said one to another, "That it was dangerous meddling with people of his order," and seemed to hint, that had they recognized it sooner, he would not have

mer

met with so much charitable care. Gaspar heard all this; he drew forth his limbs as well as he was able from the briars and mud, which had entangled them, and crawling forth, like a reptile, from the ditch, said to himself, I am afraid I have been in error; I find now that the Jesuits ARE NOT every where so well respected.

Whatsoever sentiments these deliverers might entertain, now they had begun their work they were not willing to leave it in the half; they therefore conducted him to their village, where he found accommodations in an inn, and being put to bed for that night, he sent the next morning to a town at some small distance where he was informed there was a college of Jesuits, whose rector immediately dispatched one of the lay brothers, and soon after himself followed, to comfort him, and see him provided with necessaries, which was the more seasonable, as Gonzalez being his senior, had borne the purse, and Gaspar had not a single real in his pocket, so that, in the strictest sense, he adhered to his vow of poverty. It was several days

before he could again set forward on his journey; but at length, by the care of the lay brother, who was somewhat of an adept in physic, he was again enabled to travel; but had the mortification to find himself thrown out of the track he was before pursuing, and, in effect, several leagues out of his way, and was obliged to procure another horse, the former one having rambled to a village in another part of the country, where being known by his furniture, he was taken by one who had been formerly a near neighbour of his, and sent home to the inn-keeper, whose property he was, and who had let him out some time before to Gaspar. He, for his part, was now obliged to proceed without any company for Paris, where Fortune, who thought she had made him sufficiently her sport, now suffered him to arrive, without any farther interruption, and whether we shall also hasten to attend him.

C H A P. XII.

Our Hero again joining Gonfalez, is by him introduced to several Persons of Distinction.

—Their Manners and Characters.

IT is natural enough for the reader to suppose that Gaspar directly went to the college of Jesuits, where he had, at first setting out, been informed by Gonfalez that he intended to stop; and there he found the father, who was overjoyed at meeting with him again; yet could he not not help smiling at the adventure of the two farmers, and telling him that he must expect bad treatment from ignorant persons, and must often suffer the martyrdom of his and the society's character; adding also, that such trials of patience were necessary for men who should *themselves* be steady, in order that they might direct the steps of *others*, and guide even the consciences of princes. This could not but be allowed by the person to whom it was addressed, and taking the compliment

paid to the community, in part as a compliment to himself, he rested satisfied with the document, though he never forgot to his dying-day, the catechism of the two Frenchmen, nor the scandal which they threw upon his order.—

But now Gonsalvo began to think of discharging his office; his companion being arrived, and all things necessary for his plan adjusted with the college, whose advice and assistance he was instructed to take in the matters which he had in charge. The first thing then that he had to do, was, to wait on the duke de Sombre, to whose presence Gaspar was also admitted, but in a lay habit, as had previously been concerted, and constantly withdrew when a nod or a wink from his senior gave the signal. Indeed there was occasion to put on a very cautious and very ceremonious behaviour before this nobleman, who is one of the extraordinary personages that France has to boast of in this age, and whose talents for politics are held in very great esteem at court; chiefly, perhaps, because men generally set a great value on what

what they cannot fathom; a circumstance so true, that mysterious dulness has often passed for wisdom and gravity, and an affectation of being singular for philosophy.

The Duke de Sombre is a nobleman of the first rank in France, descended from an ancient family, and not a little proud of his ancestry. He was a person of a commanding, and at the same time a very forbidding aspect, haughty, gloomy, and reserved; nor was this the mere effect of his natural temper, but in a great measure the result of choice. He had often heard the French ridiculed by foreigners for their levity, and therefore he affected the contrary extreme, and joining to this the consideration that he should be the better respected, as a statesman and politician, the more of gravity he assumed, he resolved to augment his portion of it, according to the degree in which he was concerned in state-affairs, and the business of the public; insomuch that his honour became as it were the Barometer of his station and office, and if he appeared a

grave sedate person, when he was first called to court, he was perfectly sullen, when he took his place at the council-board. This affectation of the duke's was far from rendering him agreeable to his friends, dependants, and domestics; the latter of whom, (as inferiors are generally fond of laughing at those above them) used to call him the Spanish Duke, by way of scoff and contempt. It is true that it behoved them to take care that this and many other of their ridicules never reached his ears; and he sometimes thought himself the object of their adoration, always of their respect; but people of distinction deceive themselves, when they suppose that they who are placed in a point of eminence, from whence all their actions must needs be conspicuous, can ever proceed in any kind of whimsical deportment, without being ridiculed for it by those about them. That envy of their betters, which generally prevails in people of a low rank, must have some vent; and when these compare their own state with that of such as are above them, nothing can

can make them any way contented with their own station, but the drawing some comparison of persons, manners, or temper between themselves and the envied person, such as, turning out to the disadvantage of the latter, may, in weak minds, bring their lot more upon a level than Providence ever intended to place it. In comparisons like these, not a single word or action escape being weighed in the partial balance of self-love, and there are seldom wanting grains of malice and envy to turn the scale.—On these principles it would indeed have been wonderful had the duke escaped the censures of his dependants; and as to his domestics, could he but have mixed with them unknown among their merry-makings, he might have seen that reserve and loftiness of temper, which he thought to be the admiration of all France, made the jest of his valets, and by the happy mimicry of a footboy, produce the most immoderate bursts of laughter from his scullion-wench. But to return to our story.—To this nobleman, such as he was, with all his

faults and imperfections, did father Gon-
salvo apply himself; and, after some cere-
monious attendance was admitted to the
function he came to discharge. In short,
within three days, he took upon himself
the office of his grace's confessor, and in
that station, he soon became not only his
spiritual, but his *temporal* guide and di-
rector.

In the mean time, Gaspar, who had
appeared but twice before the duke, and
at both those times was attired like a lay-
man, now resumed, at the instance of
Gonsalvo, his religious habit, and by
means of that artful father, got acquaint-
ed with one of the intimates of the Count
de Vaneuil, to whom he was recom-
mended in the same quality as his senior
had been to the Duke de Sombre.

The count, of whom we are now speak-
ing, was a man of a very contrary disposi-
tion to the other nobleman. He was in-
deed high-spirited, but to his pride, he
joined a certain fire and openness which was
unknown to the other, and was, in gene-
ral, far from appearing to disadvantage to
stran-

strangers in any public character. But he was fickle and wavering as the wind: many had strove to fix him to one point at various times, but all those many had failed. Besides this, he was, in private, vain, extravagant, and most ridiculously given to pleasure; to the gratification of which, in the slightest degree, he would sacrifice his honour, his dignity, and his most solemn engagements. To women he was most particularly addicted, and therefore most unfit to be trusted in affairs of state; as he was more than once suspected of betraying such secrets to his paramours as ought to have been lodged for ever in his breast, and had more than once been known to surrender to the entreaties of a mistress a place which he had refused to the interest of a most worthy nobleman; and to give another for the company of a young girl, which he had already pledged his word of honour to bestow on the son of a worthy officer.—Such a conduct as this must have ruined the credit of any one but the count, at a court like that of France; but he had such

H 6

great friends, and such a powerful party, as for a long while sustained him; nevertheless he seemed now in the wane of his greatness, which he was yet far from being sensible of, and blazed out as strong as ever. He saw himself still solicited by two parties, and according to his fickle disposition, he knew not with which to acquiesce. Inclining now to one, now to the other, he had almost tired out both, when at length he declared for the parliament, for no better reason than because a dependant of his, a man of decayed fortune, who in a degree *above* that of a domestic, acted in a degree *below* it as his procurer, happened to be on that side the question. Being threatened with the loss of some places of profit, when his resolutions were known, he went immediately, and begged leave to resign them, however dangerous such a conduct might be in France, the count was resolved to hazard it, while the court, to mortify him, instead of seeming angry, very coolly granted his request, intimating, at the same time, that his presence at the council-board and draw-

drawing-room would likewise be dispensed with, without his giving himself the farther trouble to ask that additional favour. This circumstance coming to the ears of the people, was sufficient to make this whimsical man appear as almost a martyr for a cause, which, but a few days before, he was in doubt whether he should not oppose with all his interest; but such is the nature of the multitude, and so easily are they led to believe any thing which seems to favour their own wishes and opinions. But having introduced our hero to this new-made idol of the people, we must drop his character for the present, and continue the sketch of it only so far as it shall be interwoven with the principal events which we are about to relate in the succeeding chapters of this history.

and begged leave to resign them, however dangerous such a conduct might be in France, the count was resolved to hazard it, while the court, so mortally offended of seeming angry, very coolly granted his request, intimating, at the same time, that his presence at the council-board and draw-

CHAP.

C H A P. XIII.

An Account of Gaspar's Treatment with Count Vaneuil, and the Success his Designs met with in that Quarter.

FATHER Gaspar soon perceived all these foibles of the count, which we have above related, and as soon saw that Gonfalso had chosen the hardest post for himself in undertaking to manage the reserved De Sombre, whilst to him he had given a much more easy one, since he had nothing to do, but to flatter the vanities of the nobleman with whom he was placed, and he was sure to get out of him whatever he pleased. He was but just established in his place, when his penitent, who had for some time past, as a compliment, been much attended to in council, resigned his places, and was dismissed, as we have above related, a circumstance which was immediately communicated to the Jesuit, not in confession, or as a matter of duty, but as man to man, and in the

the meer confidence of friendship. It is not to be doubted but that the latter related it with all its circumstances before it could be publicly known to Gonfalso, who thereupon took his measures accordingly; at the same time telling his informer, that he easily foresaw the count's temper would not long leave them any work in attending upon him, but that they must turn their thoughts to other matters, and to other persons. And as he foresaw, so it fell out; however it was agreed, that Gaspar should remain with his penitent, in order to discover what connexions he formed with the party whose interest he espoused, and how far he intended to carry them. This was no hard matter; for entering into very close engagements with some of the most refractory of the parliament, he communicated all to his confessor, who failed not as faithfully to reveal it to the Duke de Sombre*. In

* It is an error to suppose, that the confessors among the Roman Catholics, are bound by oath to conceal what their penitents tell them: they are only bound by their word and honour, and that is even conditional; for if it be treason, or any such case,

consequence of which, the court, at length, thought it requisite to secure Vaneuil's person, at least for the present; but before their scheme could be put in execution, some of his friends gave him intelligence, and also hinted to him, that his confessor must be the person who had betrayed him. This was enough for the fiery Frenchman. Before he consulted his own safety, he sent for the accused person into his closet, who little suspecting what had happened, came thither directly, thinking he had something of moment to advise with him upon; for which reason he was also the less surprized when the door was locked, but began to entertain no good opinion of the result of this conference, when the count proceeded in an angry tone to demand of him whether he had ever mentioned the affairs he had entrusted him with to any one. It is easy to imagine he received an answer in the negative, of which however

case, they are obliged, on the contrary, to reveal it. In other matters, such a breach of confidence is liable to the censure of their Superiors, or of the Inquisition, in countries where that court exercises its jurisdiction.

no proofs appearing, but, on the other hand, very strong presumptive ones, this shallow politician wrought himself up into a most violent passion, and informing Gaspar, that he knew he should be seized and conveyed to prison, told him at the same time, that he was resolved before he went thither to sacrifice his betrayer to his resentment. Gaspar now thought he was caught in a snare from which it would require his utmost prudence to escape;—a moment's pause was all he had to trust to; for the angry nobleman had now his hand on his sword, and was advancing towards him; but this moment well used was sufficient. It was true, the count had locked the door on the inside, but his confessor knew that he had another key to that apartment, with which he used, without making any ceremony, at all times when he pleased, to let himself in and out; but seldom carried it about him; by good luck, however, he now had it in his pocket, and knew very well that it would easily open him a passage, if he could any way amuse the angry man, or keep him at
a dis-

a distance for a few seconds. Here presence of mind was of great service to him. The count had a loaded pistol as well as a sword, and the former lay upon the table. Gaspar fixing his eyes upon it, just as he was drawing, nimbly stepped up, passed by him, and laid hold of this, which the other, in his fit of rage had forgotten. He now found himself next the door, to which he retreated with the cocked pistol, presenting it, while he opened the lock, and the nobleman, incensed as he was, not caring to run upon what he deemed certain death, our hero got out, and fastening the door again on the other side, he left the key in the lock, and walked down stairs with great seeming composure, while his shallow penitent was discharging that fury upon the walls of his chamber, which he had intended for his confessor, who, on his part, took care never more to appear in his presence; and that very night the count was apprehended; having spent his time, which ought to have been esteemed precious in such a case, in meditating a fruitless.

less vengeance, which at last miscarried in
the execution.

The count had a loaded pistol as well as a
sword, and the former lay upon the table.

CHAPTER XIV.

*What happened to our Hero, after he left the
Count Vaneuil, and his Instructions from
Gonsalvo whilst he was with the Duke de
Sombre.*

GONSALVO was highly delighted
with the manner in which his com-
panion had tricked the count, whose
downfall he had foreseen, and was pre-
pared to employ him in another sphere.
“You have succeeded,” my Gaspar, said
he, “very well upon the whole, in this
commission of yours. But you must
now get into the office with the marquis
of Villeneuve, with whom I will instruct
you how to proceed in such a manner
as may favour the church’s cause, which
indeed that nobleman is a good friend to,
but which he perhaps may injure by an
over-hasty zeal to serve it, which you
must guide according to the directions
“ that

“that you receive from time to time, from
 “me. The marquis must make a confi-
 “dent of him who fills this place, who
 “cannot fail to be of use to us, if he be a
 “person of any abilities for the purpose;
 “so that I doubt not but you will be ca-
 “pable of serving us in that station. But
 “the affair of the count, your late penitent,
 “is too recent for it to be proper that you
 “should appear any more at present in
 “your own character, among his friends,
 “or any of his party.”

Gonsalvo accordingly, on receiving an
 answer which implied his consent, took
 such measures as soon got his companion
 recommended to the most illustrious Mar-
 quis of Villeneuve, by no less an interest
 than that of the Duke de Sombre. Our
 hero found his new master to be a person
 of a very sweet disposition, endowed with
 many of the most excellent qualities, both
 natural and acquired, amongst which, a
 clear insight into political matters was ge-
 nerally allowed to be one: and, indeed,
 nothing was more notorious than that in-
 finitely worse politicians managed affairs
 in

in the cabinet, while this gentleman contented himself with living a few months there in the winter, and spending all the summer season, in a rural retirement, about forty miles distant from the capital. Many people wondered that such a man should absent himself from the court; but besides that, the most able statesmen, are not always the persons who most covet public employments; there was likewise another reason why this nobleman never cared to appear at court. His great grandfather had been killed in Flanders, at the head of a regiment, in the service of his king and country; yet the son of this very man, our marquis's grandfather, who served Louis XIV. with the greatest loyalty and assiduity, saw himself slighted, his honours, (all but the hereditary ones) taken from him, and made use of to adorn a favourite, a court sycophant, who never possessed a tenth part of his abilities. His father indeed, was offered to have restored to him by Louis XV. all that Louis XIV. had taken from him; but this was on such conditions, as he thought himself bound

bound not to agree to; and even while the affair was negotiating, two of his relations were banished to their country-seats, where they were obliged to remain for life, on the most trivial accounts imaginable: all these circumstances were sufficient to give the marquis a distaste for courts, yet he had ever entertained the greatest regard imaginable to the king's person, for whose real service he would willingly have shed his blood. Every one expected that such a man, as far as he designed to concern himself with politics at all, would take the side of the parliament in the present disputes; and much were they surpris'd to find the contrary. By degrees, the marquis began more and more to discourse of public matters, increased the length of his stay in the capital, and though he did not go to court, sometimes went so far as to visit those persons of quality who were in office. From this change of temper, most people drew presages, that he would shortly be called to accept of some employment, which they seem'd to assure themselves he would

would not refuse. Yet nothing was, at that time, farther from his thoughts than such an intention. Public actions have frequently private springs from whence they flow; and so it was with the nobleman in question. His family, disappointed of that sway which they thought their due in the state, had placed several branches of it in the church, and among their noble descendants, were many secular clergymen, whose interests were connected with that of the archbishop, to whom all these disputes at present subsisting, were chiefly owing. Above all, Villeneuve had a natural son, whom he loved with the tenderest affection, and whom he had brought up an ecclesiastic, who was at this time vicar of ****, at some distance from Paris, but was absolutely involved in the parliament's edict, among those whom they termed the refractory clergy, at which his father was so highly offended, that he from that hour detested them, and all their proceedings. It was thus that the nobleman changed parties; and at this juncture, it was thought proper to endeavour at bringing
blow ing

ing him to court, where he was to be offered all manner of honours and emoluments, since the ministers would be proud of his name and sanction to be given to their actions; for even then began those seeds of dissention in other matters besides the ecclesiastical disputes, to spring up between them and their parliaments, which have since spread so much in France, and are at this day left undecided.

Now, as Gaspar had the direction of the Marquis's conscience, who was himself directed by Gonsalvo; it was no difficult matter for him to persuade his penitent, by degrees, to give a powerful succour to the party he wished so well to; and, besides, to awaken the hidden embers of ambition, which had once more began to glow in his bosom; nor did he fail to execute his office properly, and at length brought the marquis over to his designs. In the mean time, we must pause a little, to relate one of the adventures which happened to our hero himself, in the course of his attendance upon this his patron.

C H A P. XV.

*An Intrigue of Gaspar's at a Convent, with
its Consequences.*

WHILE our adventurer was attending to the interests of his order, he was not so much concerned for them, as entirely to forget his own pleasures; he loved good living, and maugre all the fasts of the church, he found sufficient opportunities of enjoying it; nor was he become entirely insensible to beauty, notwithstanding the obligations of his order. This sort of vows, thanks to the men who made them, like what is reported of the poison of some venomous animals, seemed to carry their own antidote with them, since the doctrines of the Catholics (those of the Jesuits in particular) have ever inculcated the strongest disgust to ceremonious obligations, treating them only as mere matters of form, and have gone so far as to assert, that in any case, oaths taken without intention, were not binding, and, in

consequence, some have been absolved from their vows upon no other pretence: nay, they have even suffered a priest to quit his function, on evidence being produced that he whispered a friend at his ordination, That he did not enter into holy orders from any inclination he had to become a member of the church, but merely to oblige a rich relation, on whom he had a great dependance.

We mention these circumstances, that the reader may not be amazed to find our hero commencing intrigues, after he had taken a vow of celibacy. If what has been observed above, cannot exculpate him, then must he remain without justification; as we do not hold ourselves obliged to vindicate him in his actions, merely because we have taken upon us to write the history of them; we will only take notice, that if he went astray, he was not without many and great examples of the same failings in others, and even such as the people of his own communion have respected as holy men, and pillars of the church, to which they belonged.

The

great

The adventure we are about is such an one as chance, and not design, threw into the way of Gaspar de Vega; and in the pursuit of which, as we have no positive evidence that he broke his vow, we shall only relate all that was known of the fact, and then leave it to the reader, (as it once was left to those who heard it, when it was more recent) to determine.

The marquis de Villeneuve had a cousin who was abbeys of the convent called that of Rich Dames, where the religious consist mostly of the sisters or daughters of persons of high rank and distinction, or of the widows of illustrious persons, who having been disgusted with the world, retire from it, to spend the remainder of their lives in an agreeable retreat, where they may be more at ease from the noise and impertinence of what is called *high life*, and the ceremonious intrusions of the great world. As this community is made up of persons, whose character and honour are generally well esteemed; and as besides they settle very handsome endowments upon the place, they enjoy the

greatest liberties; and were any one to come directly among them, he would think, that he was rather introduced to a chearful and polite society of ladies, than to a religious community, if he could but forget certain peculiarities which barely distinguish them. To the abbess of this nunnery we speak of, the marquis got his confessor recommended as a holy man, and as such he was accepted by her, and heard the confessions of the nuns, with which office he was not a little pleased, as it introduced him to some of the most elegant and accomplished persons in France, who had shut themselves up there for some of the reasons above mentioned; and he was still better satisfied to find that those bolts, bars, and grates which were so very strict in many other convents, were here regarded rather as matter of form than security; insomuch that notwithstanding the show of them, it was no difficult matter to take such liberties with the penitents as to them proved very agreeable. Among the beauties who were placed here, was one young lady, whose name was Du Pleffis, descended

ed from a good family in France, but whose mother dying in her infancy, her father resolved, while she was yet too young to know the nature of a convent, to have her educated there till she should be of age sufficient to take the veil, which he then compelled her to take in order, as he was not very rich, that he might enlarge the fortune of his son, who, in the end, turned out an extravagant rake, and who after many bad actions, just as his father was on the point of matching him with the daughter of a rich merchant, was killed in a drunken quarrel, which he had commenced for the sake of a common prostitute, in whose cause he had before murdered an honest and innocent mechanic; an action for which his father had been obliged to strain his utmost interest, to save him from a shameful death; and he now hearing of this accident, took it so much to heart, that grief and vexation threw him into a violent fever, of which he expired in about a fortnight, leaving one half of his fortune to a slight acquaintance, only because he bore the same

name, and the other to the convent where he had placed his daughter.

She who, on her part, had newly taken the veil, and not without great reluctance, was near following him, on hearing the tidings of these melancholy events. She had always loved her father, in spite of his cruelty; she grieved now for his death, and that of her wretched brother, and her grief was enhanced when she reflected, that by their imprudence the whole fortune came to a stranger, while she, who ought, on their decease, to have inherited it, was shut up in a convent, which, though the most tolerable of any, proved in such circumstances disagreeable enough to one of her age and constitution.

Theresa (that was the name of the young lady) was about sixteen when she was thus deprived of her father, and this happened soon after Gaspar appeared a confessor at the convent of Rich Dames. As he was very curious and insinuating, he got from her, in the course of his conversation at confessions, all the account which we have here given of her former adven-

adventures, together with the most free declaration how much she disliked a monastic life, to bring her to which her parent had taken so much pains, that he might accomplish an end, that Heaven was pleased at last to thwart and defeat. As she spoke, our hero grew every time more and more charmed with her, while she, whether it was from his engaging behaviour to her, where she had expected great austerity, or from the little conversation she had ever had with men, or from some other cause, conceived a prejudice in his favour, which gave birth to the connexions we are about to speak of. — By degrees she became insensibly more and more familiar with the father, till at length she chose him for her *devoto*, or spiritual spouse, as it is called, and could go through none of her exercises of piety without him. If she had stopped here, it had been well; but proceeding from one thing to another, taking advantage of the little restraint which is laid upon the professed in that particular house, she began to grant him a thousand liberties through the grates, which

some pious persons would doubtless have termed indecent, and at last they contrived a method, by his loosening one of the window-bars, to get her confessor admitted to her apartment, where he frequently passed several hours of the night, which were employed, as they asserted, in exercises of morality and devotion; but however that was, in some weeks after the arrival of Gaspar, poor Theresa found some symptoms of a more earthly conversation, which she being unable to hide, gave great offence to some of her sisters, who proceeded in the matter as we shall hereafter have occasion to mention. In the mean time, we shall speak a few words of Gaspar's proceedings with the marquis. In the frequent opportunities which he had of conversing with that nobleman, he found means so effectually to fan the fire of his zeal, and to kindle that of his ambition; that he wrought upon him to return to court, and present himself before the prime minister, who received him in the most favourable manner; and he was presently preferred to several places of profit

fit and honour, called to the council-board, and received the highest marks of favour from the king, and Madame de * * * * *, whom before he was far from holding as his friend. These alterations were taken notice of by all Paris, though it was little suspected who was at the bottom of them. However the people clamoured aloud, as is generally the case, for the loss of their patriot, who now began to be loaded with the most opprobrious names by them; and had not a single virtue which they did not turn into a vice; and steady as he had been reputed, there were those who said he bestowed some attention upon the reports of this nature, which were handed about to his disadvantage. Be that as it may, it is plain that the satisfaction he reaped at court was greater than the dissatisfaction which these occasioned, or he would not have remained there, and bidden them defiance.

As to Gonsalvo, he absolutely ruled the Duke de Sombre, and gave him such lessons, as entirely fixed him in his zeal

for the church, and were besides the foundation of those policies that have been since adopted by the monarch and his ministers, by means of which the former has asserted and maintained his prerogative, in spite of all the encroachments which the parliaments and people have been said to endeavour at making upon that and all the branches of his regal authority. The duke was indeed, as we have taken notice, no good statesman. He possessed but little of the gifts of genius; or more properly speaking, of nature; but he was capable of imitation, and as long as he chose to be directed by the precepts of one whom no one knew to administer them, and stamped a price on them, by his own *real quality* and affected gravity, he proceeded upon principles which contributed to establish his power, and help his friends, and found it very easy to receive all the honour of such a conduct, while the real promoter of it had every reason in the world to retire behind the curtain.

Such was the state of politics, when a private end bade fair to create a public disorder. There was a nun, named Mariamne, who being esteemed by Theresa as a sincere friend, was entrusted by her in most of the scenes which passed between herself and her confessor, and the latter little suspected her of proving false to her trust; but when, at length, the unhappy girl had the misfortune to prove pregnant, the sister reproached her with insincerity, in not discovering to her the whole, but only half of the secret; and threatened, since she was not worthy to be trusted, to make a report to the lady abbess of what she found was the case; and upon Theresa's denying that matters had been carried so far, and little thinking that her friend would put her threats in execution, which she still only deemed to be used as the means of satisfying her female curiosity, she found herself strongly deceived; for sister Mariamne went to the abbess, who presently after sent for the accused person, and caused her to go through an examination, that, in the event proved her to be

really pregnant. Now it is very well known that a breach of the vow of celibacy in a nun is attended with a capital punishment, if strict regard be had to the institutes in that case provided. It became Theresa, therefore, to have all her prudence about her in a matter of so much concern; so that, considering well the time when Gaspar came to the convent, she fixed the date of her pregnancy, which she now found it in vain to deny, was a little earlier, which served two good ends; in the first place, it was evident it exculpated her innamorado, and threw the fault upon the former confessor, who was gone to America, from whence there was a chance that he might never return; and in the second, which was a matter of infinitely more consequence, it was the only method left of saving her life, while she acknowledged the fault, by fixing it to such a time when she was not yet professed, but was in the year of her noviciate, which had expired since she first knew Gaspar; and as the time in dispute was confined to a month, she guessed it would be no easy matter

matter to detect her, and she judged rightly:
 - However the matter did not rest here;
 - for the lady abbess disclosed it to the pro-
 - vincial, when he made his visitation; and
 - There she was solemnly charged then to
 - make known who was the occasion of her
 - shame. She persisted as before on charg-
 - ing father Desrieux with the crime, who
 - was absent on a mission to America. But
 - the matter was not passed by, as Gaspar
 - was with justice suspected, till the college
 - of Jesuits was informed of it; and their
 - principal called the person in question be-
 - fore him, who appeared readily enough,
 - without the least suspicion, of hearing
 - what was about to be laid to his charge.
 - However, when he was acquainted with
 - the accusation, he utterly denied it to them,
 - as also he always did to his most inti-
 - mate acquaintance. He indeed acknow-
 - ledged a strict friendship with sister Du
 - Plessis, and said he was her *devo*; but
 - as to farther familiarities, he flatly denied
 - that any such had passed; besides, though
 - he knew not what the nun had said, he
 - observed, That if it were true that she was
 1977572 pregnant

pregnant, there was as much reason for laying the crime to Destrieux's charge as to his; and this seeming to tally with what Theresa had advanced, gave a little more colour of truth to their assertions. I say *a little more*, because nothing was more certain than that these fathers, and the provincial, before whom he likewise appeared, entertained some shrewd suspicions of him, which all his apparent piety was not sufficient to remove. The latter of these and the lady abbess joined in a message to the Marquis de Villeneuve, informing him of what had fallen out, but concealing the name of the nun, and begging his secrecy in regard to the matter. But here they stopped, since, not having positive proofs, they could not proceed against the Jesuits, on the one hand, whilst on the other, they did not chuse to bring shame on the convent, by a censure past on Theresa: besides, even if they could have found her guilty, they would really have had little satisfaction in putting her sentence in execution, as she was in general well beloved, and
her

her father had been a great benefactor to the convent, the inheritor of whose fortune still continued to make them presents, and intended placing his sister there, to all which such rigour might prove an obstacle. They caused him, however, to be informed of her defection, and at the same time a hint was given, that if he could any other way provide for her, no hindrance should be given to her removal from their community. Accordingly she was permitted to depart one night with some persons whom M. du Plessis sent to take her away; and the next morning it was declared, That sister Theresa had made her escape. And this was the method they thought proper to take, in order to avoid the scandal and trouble that they feared would be the consequence of proceeding in another manner. Yet the Marquis de Villeneuve being informed of what his confessor and favourite had done, could scarcely believe his own ears, which heard him accused; but he hurried away to the convent, where he met the abbess and father

father provincial. What they said to him, it is not to be expected that the writer of these memoirs should inform the reader, none being present but themselves, and neither of the three chusing to communicate the substance of the discourse to any one. It is presumed, however, that much more was said after the nun had withdrawn herself than while she was present, and though her desertion was permitted merely to prevent scandal, yet sister Mariamne could not be prevented from mentioning the circumstance to every novice on her profession, as a warning, she said, to prevent her from falling into the same kind of error. But the truth was, that this good sister, being of a temper as little given to a chaste and solitary life as any one, was extremely provoked at having lost her * *devota*, which was

* Most of the nuns, those especially of a sanguine constitution, chuse out for themselves (if they cannot be accommodated with any of the male religious) one of their female companions, on whom they fix their love and assiduities; under the notion of helping them in their religious duties, but with whom they

indeed the chief reason that she broke the bonds of friendship with her, and betrayed all that she knew to the abbess.

The marquis returned from his conference in the convent, little satisfied with what he had heard concerning his confessor, and as he had been applied to as his recommender to that place, so he, in his turn, sent to the Duke de Sombre, who had first introduced our hero to him; and this nobleman was about to have made an open declaration of the little knowledge he had of the person, and by word of mouth to have referred the messenger to his own confessor, when luckily that father came in, in which he took him aside, and told him the whole matter: when Gonsalvo pre-

indulge themselves, as if they were not only their spiritual but carnal husbands, and often call them by that name. Strange stories are told of these connexions, which decency forbids us here to repeat: but whether these be true or not, the ardent love which the unhappy virgins express for these their *deputies*, is at least a sure proof, that the affections of the sexes must be placed somewhere, and such an argument against forcing them from their natural channel, as pleads strongly against these boasted religious institutions.

valied

veiled upon him, at all events, to say no-
 thing to the detriment of the community,
 and only to send word back in a letter,
 that he was sorry to hear such a scandal
 had been propagated concerning a holy
 man, of whom he had so good an opinion,
 and to exhort the marquis to take no fur-
 ther notice of it, unless it should come to
 a public trial, (which, from the circum-
 stances of the case, it was indeed impossi-
 ble it should) and with this billet the ser-
 vant was dispatched back to his master;
 but, as in spite of all the efforts of the per-
 sons concerned, there were some who
 whispered things to the disadvantage of our
 hero that much displeased the marquis,
 (whose public station considered, his late
 change of principles, and every other cir-
 cumstance, could little brook it) that no-
 bleman became very uneasy, and now be-
 gan to wish in his heart to be rid of the
 person who had persuaded him to throw
 himself in the way of those honours,
 though he did not care to tell him so.
 Gaspar making known all these things to
 his friend Gonsalvo, and to the college, he
 was

was advised from both quarters to withdraw himself from Villeneuve, and make a handsome retreat, while it was yet in his power to do so, that none of the enemies of the order might have it in their power to say he was dismissed; accordingly the confessor, after making some excuses to the marquis, which were easily received, left him to the choice of a new confessor, and retired to his brethren to consult what farther services they had for him to perform, which might turn out to the advantage of the church, or to their own aggrandisement and emolument.

CHAP. XVI.

Father Gaspar preferred to a new Office, and from thence to an Apartment in the Bastille: His Reflections thereupon.

IT was now determined on all hands, that father Vega had done as much as could be expected from him, towards the promotion of the Jesuits present political designs

designs, at his own proper hazard, for
 which he received the thanks of the com-
 munity, who agreed to look over any
 thing that might be laid to his charge, on
 consideration of the services which he had
 done to them, and to their interests; but
 as things had fallen out, they advised him
 to keep out of the way for some time, that
 the scandal might not be kept alive by his
 presence, and then they promised to re-
 commend him to some penitent or other,
 in the guidance of whom, he would have
 little to do with the weighty concerns of
 politics, for which burden, they thought
 Vasquez de Gonsalvo might now alone be
 sufficient, as all things seemed to go on
 pretty well to their own minds, and as the
 party they favoured was most likely to pre-
 vail. Gaspar gladly acquiesced in this
 proposal, and applied himself for some
 weeks pretty closely to study at the College,
 during which short period, as he after-
 wards declared, he had the most satisfac-
 tion of all the time that he remained in
 France.

At length, when the Jesuits thought it was proper for him again to make his appearance, they recommended him to the Chevalier de Salteine, in quality of his confessor, and tutor to his son, an office which he gladly accepted, as he was not a little pleased with the thought that his political labours were for a while suspended; having had a sufficient specimen of what might be expected from courts and marquises, and chusing for once to taste the sweets of tranquility in a wealthy private family; and such he found that was to which he now was introduced.

Full of these thoughts, he entered upon his double office with great chearfulness; but was too soon convinced that he had trusted too much to appearances when he supposed it would prove so agreeable a one. It was expected he should take the care of his pupil in every respect, as to his morals, as well as his learning; and all this he found to be no very easy matter, as the old chevalier was rigid, positive, and pe-
nurious; and the young one, who had by this time attained his eighteenth year with-
out

out any traces of his having profited by his learning, passionate, spiteful, and dissolute, and full of contempt and hatred for all manner of literature. It was utterly impossible to please them both, and yet without so doing, nothing was more evident than that it was not practicable to live with either. — The consequences of such opposite dispositions in the father and the son, were perpetual family quarrels; from which the confessor, notwithstanding all the respect his function demanded, could not always be excluded. He saw this, and applied to the chevalier to get his leave to withdraw, which being refused, when he seemed to hint that he should depart without it, the other most passionately intreated he would not think of so doing. “How,” exclaimed he, “would you leave me, and in such a strait? Is this well done, is this like a confessor and a Christian? My son, you say, is refractory, to whom so properly as to yourself can I apply to reduce him to obedience? No help of mine shall be wanting to complete so good a work. But you seem

“ to

“to object to my temper, in some measure,
 “as well as to his; let not even that con-
 “sideration prove any longer an obstacle
 “to your good designs; for I will do and
 “be whatever you desire me; but at any
 “rate, leave me not; if you should, I must
 “be compelled to apply to your principal
 “to send me another, and, at the same time,
 “to complain of your ungenerous treat-
 “ment; you, whom I take to be the only
 “person fit to manage my refractory son,
 “and restore to my family that peace to
 “which it has so long been a stranger.
 “Reduce me not, I conjure you, to this
 “necessity, but let me have occasion to
 “praise you, and by the conversion of my
 “son from his evil ways, to respect the
 “holy society of Jesus all the days of my
 “life.”

This, and much more which the old
 man said, wrought, at last, upon Gaspar
 to remain with him; he remembered the
 maxims which he had been taught, of
 overcoming difficulties, in order to gain
 honour, and he resolved to try them here;
 but, ere long he had reason to repent that

resolution, and to wish he had followed
 his own inclinations, and had left the churl
 and his rebel to themselves. Indeed, for
 a few days, he found the chevalier more
 affable, but even that was more than he
 could remark in the son, and a week had
 not passed before all things were in the
 same situation as when he had complained
 of them. The son was for ever want-
 ing money to expend upon extravagance;
 the father denied it him, even for
 necessaries; the one would not learn any
 thing if he could avoid it, whilst the other
 was perpetually examining him, and as
 often charging his tutor with a want of
 due care, because his pupil did not make
 a greater progress. All this had determi-
 ned the tutor once more to give notice of
 quitting his office, when the chevalier very
 unexpectedly called for him, and told him,
 "That he was extremely sorry to see the
 "little signs his son gave of amendment:
 "but," continued he, "there are those
 "who tell me, that if I send him from
 "under my own roof, and put him entirely
 "under the care of some other person, I
 "shall

"shall have a chance of finding some al-
 "teration for the better in him. I have
 "been at last myself persuaded into this
 "opinion; and as I can think of no
 "person more proper than yourself for
 "executing the purpose, I would intreat
 "you to go to my brother in — street,
 "who is to be at the expence of his re-
 "moval, which he proposes should be
 "under the notion of making the tour of
 "his own country, and he will give you
 "his instructions about the matter, if you
 "chuse to undertake it, and thereby to
 "oblige me, and bind me to you forever."

Gaspar had little inclination to comply
 with the desire of the chevalier; but being
 much pressed, he at last consented, prob-
 ably not without some hopes that he
 might be the better able to manage the
 youth when he was left only to his direc-
 tions, and when proper supplies should
 be allowed him, the regulation of which
 would likewise certainly be his business.
 He therefore went accordingly to the
 young chevalier's uncle, who regulated the
 intended arrangements, and gave him

per instructions, together with bills for the supplies necessary for this expedition, which, under the name of a tour through France, was intended as nothing else but a trial how Louis would submit to the government of a stranger, when at a distance from his father.

For a few days, being diverted with this novelty, the young man put on a more engaging air, and seemed more affable and compliant; but this temper soon wore off, and gave way to his first disposition, which increased more and more upon him; till at length Gaspar was obliged to give him to understand, that he was absolute master over him, and would assert his authority. This the young chevalier seemed to take little notice of, and, in scorn of his maxims of vigilance and sobriety, neglected his studies more notoriously than ever whilst at home, and when abroad ran into such excesses, as were equally shameful and surprizing. It was now that the tutor exerted first his authority, and plainly shewed his pupil that he would be obeyed; for he first severely reprimanded, and afterwards

afterwards confined him to his chamber, letting him know, at the same time, that he would repeat this usage as often as he should repeat the occasion; and moreover, that he must expect no supplies of cash to make such an ill use of as he was disposed to do. The young man, at first, answered to this reprimand and punishment with nothing but abuse and opprobrious language, and was, perhaps, not a little surprized to see the Jesuit put those threats in execution, which he conceived were only uttered to terrify him. Many succeeding days were only spent by the one party in the breach of all wholesome regulations, and by the other, in the punishment of such behaviour; till at last the young chevalier, being tired of frequent confinements, put on the appearance of some complaisance; which his tutor, glad to observe, was ready enough to abate of his strict discipline, and even to commend him where he thought he deserved it; but he was deceived in his suppositions that any means whatsoever could work upon the youth, to reform him.

All that he did, or rather that he *seemed* to do, was only in order to procure himself more liberty, and to give time and opportunity to be at once, by some method or other, both revenged, and entirely rid of his tutor.

They were now at Toulon, and Gaspar in this city had acquired very reputable acquaintance. Among them were some foreigners, Spanish, Italians, English and Irish Catholics, and others, with whom he indiscriminately conversed; and on this circumstance his young pupil intended to build his ruin. Having by chance learned that there were then in the town some persons who were suspected as spies, and were accordingly narrowly watched, though it was at a time when France was at peace with all the nations round her, he improved this hint, and soon resolved to make such an use of it, as might render himself his own master, without caring for the injury he did to any one, so he gratified his own wicked and dissolute inclinations.

In

In the mean time, Gaspar received letters from his old friend and companion Gonfalso, in which that father informed him, that no less a person than the dauphin of France had expressed a desire of changing his confessor, and that the college of Jesuits, once more willing to try his abilities, had resolved to recommend him to the prince, as soon as they heard of the discharge of father —, who was at that time employed in executing the office, of which they told him they would send him the earliest notice, and would, at the same time, persuade the chevalier Salteine to accept of the services of another, in quality of tutor for his son, that he might be the more ready to attend the prince dauphin's orders.

Though our hero really flattered himself at one time that he was tired of courts and courtiers, yet he could not help being transported with joy at the thoughts of such a high preferment. However he took care to keep the matter a profound secret, as he had been enjoined by the rector of the college, and, in the interim,

went on very chearfully with his duty; waiting, however, not without some degree of impatience, for the lucky minute when an order should arrive for his attendance at Paris;—

And an order did arrive, sooner than he could have desired, for his immediate attendance there; but it was upon a quite different business. As he was going out one morning to take a walk to the seaside, as was his usual custom, he was seized by an exempt, in the king's name, who made him prisoner, and conveyed him first to the young chevalier's lodgings, where he was commanded to give up his keys, and all the effects he had about him, appertaining to that young gentleman; afterwards he was put upon a horse, with his legs tied under its belly, and so conveyed, by many a weary stage, the nearest way to Paris, and when he arrived, he was conducted directly to the Bastile, where he was placed in a little dirty room, with iron grates before the windows, and lodged on a bed of straw. Indeed he had good reason to be thankful for this treatment,

since,

since, indifferent as it was, he might have met with worse, and would have stood a chance of being thrown into a damp dungeon, whose unwholesome air might have cost him his life, had it not been for the intercession of some friends, who really believing the charge to be malicious, used all their interest, both in this case, and in every thing else, to serve him.

Indeed Gaspar was not without many persons to whom he could have applied, and from whom he might have hoped for some succour; but the use of pen, ink, and paper, or a person to deliver his message, were entirely denied him, and he lay for full ten days in the Bastille, without seeing or conversing with any person but his gaoler, who came to bring him the daily allowance for his subsistence, and then, carefully bolting the doors, vanished again immediately. "Ah!" said he to himself, when he surveyed this comfortless mansion, "this is the end of my ambition; these are the favours the princes of France intend to confer upon me: they will confine me here till there is a

“ danger of my expiring with vexation,
 “ and then they will kindly release me, in
 “ order to prefer me to a gibbet. What
 “ had I to do with nobles and with poli-
 “ tics, with statesmen and with parties !
 “ Ah ! this is certainly an effect of some of
 “ my wise negotiations whilst I was in Paris;
 “ and it is thus that I am rewarded for
 “ that assiduity, which obtained me the
 “ thanks of our college ! it has now ob-
 “ tained me a place in a prison ; from
 “ whence I fear the prince dauphin will
 “ scarcely be kind enough to send for me
 “ to guide *his* conscience, since I could
 “ not guide *my own* conduct well enough
 “ to prevent these misfortunes.”

Such were the prisoner's reflexions in
 his uneasy solitude, in the course of which,
 however, as is often the case, he reasoned
 amiss, when he laid his confinement to the
 charge of his negotiations in the capital.
 That was far from being the case ;—it was
 owing to the machinations of Louis Sal-
 teine, who had taken a plan of some of
 the fortifications of Calais, and con-
 veyed it into one of his tutor's boxes, by
 means

means of a false key that he caused to be made for that purpose. After this he went in search of some of the king's officers, to whom he had frequently pretended to hint his suspicions of Gaspar's evil designs, which he supported by the observation of his conversing (as he said) with suspected persons; and now he told them that those suspicions were confirmed, and, having brought them to search the rooms, directed them to that chest where he had laid the drawing ready enough at hand for them to find it. They accordingly took out that and some other of his papers, and secured them one day while he was abroad, and the next morning arrested him, as we have seen, and conveyed him to prison, where he remained till a powerful intercession was made to release him.

C H A P. XVII.

*Gaspar obtains his Release from Prison.—The
Alteration he finds among his Friends at
Paris.*

NINE tedious days, as many weary nights, did our hero lie in his apartment in the Bastille, when towards the evening of the tenth day, the gaoler, who never used to come near him more than once in twenty-four hours, paid him a second visit, and opened the door, bidding him follow him, which the prisoner accordingly did, though with a palpitating heart, thinking that some new scene of mischief was about to be opened before him, when, to his great surprize, after passing through various rooms and galleries in the prison, he was at last brought to the outward door, where a coach waited for him, into which his conductor put him, saying, "Friend, you are now at liberty ;" "but his majesty, by me signifies his pleasure to you, which is that you withdraw to the college

" college of your order, from whence you
 " are not to come out for fourteen days."

It is not to be doubted but Gaspar was ready enough to change his disagreeable solitude for this little confinement among his friends; so, answering that he should take care to obey his majesty. the coach drove off, and presently brought him to the place whither he was commanded, where the rector having been apprized of his coming, was ready to receive him, and all the fathers, as he thought, seemed glad to welcome his restoration to liberty; but in this he was likewise deceived; all their joy at his approach arose only from the consideration, that an examination of some of their members, with which they had been threatened, would not now certainly take place; but as to himself, their esteem for him, as he plainly perceived during his forced fourteen days residence, was greatly diminished since the last accident that had befallen him. These men, like the herd of deers, were willing to avoid their stricken companion, lest they should, by consorting with him, stand a chance of

coming in for a share of that scandal that had been thrown upon him. In short, they were so little desirous of his company, that at the fourteen days end, they, in a manner, turned him out of doors, and, as gently as they could, insinuated that he would do well to return to his own country, or in other words, that they never desired to see his face again.

For his part, he had as little desire of consorting with them, or of receiving their instructions, or recommendations, which had hitherto done him so little service, and he was willing enough to quit France without staying to be appointed the dauphin's confessor. However, before he resolved upon any thing, he had a mind to pay a visit to his friend and companion Vasquez de Gonsalvo, to see whether he was as much changed as the holy fathers of the college. Gaspar with some difficulty, gained admission to him, though he was extremely mortified, when, chancing to pass by the Duke de Sombre, and making him the lowest obeysance, he received, in return one of the most gloomy frowns he had ever seen that nobleman wear upon his brow;

blow; and was afterwards treated by the domestics, who seemed in this point to imitate their master, with a rudeness bordering upon contempt; and when he enquired for the father companion, was obliged to wait above half an hour in an anti-chamber, before he could be admitted to his presence. At last, having obtained his desire, he expected nothing but to be received by him with a coldness which might be suitable to the treatment he had received from the others; but here he was for once agreeably disappointed; for that father came up to him, and, taking him most cordially by the hand, wished him joy of his liberty. Gaspar failed not to acquaint him with the manner in which he had been received by the fathers, after all their professions of serving him, as also of the apparent displeasure of the Duke de Sombre. All which, having heard very patiently, his friend addressed him in the following manner.—

“You may remember, my Gaspar, that
 “when first we left Spain, I foretold many
 “difficulties would attend our mission;
 “and

word

"and so it has fallen out, but more espe-
 "cially to you; and though the chief of
 "them, it must be confessed, have not
 "been owing to any imprudence of your
 "own, but merely to chance, or the dis-
 "position of things here below; yet these
 "misfortunes, of which you complain
 "with justice, might have had consequen-
 "ces not very agreeable to the Jesuits,
 "who are here established, and consider
 "themselves as under the immediate eye
 "of a supreme power, which, though it
 "sometimes favours the church, yet is ex-
 "tremely jealous of its own prerogative
 "and authority. I can besides assure you,
 "from my own observation, that the fa-
 "thers of our community are no where so
 "cautious, or indeed so indifferent as in
 "Paris, whilst, at the same time, there is
 "no place where the college is more ab-
 "solute in its injunctions. These things
 "considered, I was not extremely fond of
 "the office I had in charge, and there was
 "room to imagine, that you might have
 "less reason to be so. The event has, at
 "last justified my opinion; but as for you,
 "I would

"I would not have you give yourself any
 "uneasiness either at the indifference of
 "the fathers, or at the crimes with which
 "you are charged. As to the former,
 "you may manage so as to have very lit-
 "tle connexion with them, and as to the
 "latter, every one knows that it was owing
 "to the revengeful temper of your pupil,
 "that you were charged with the crime of
 "a spy, and put into prison upon slight
 "circumstances, where you might have
 "lain long enough, if I had not summoned
 "the few who were your real friends to-
 "gether, when by chance I heard of your
 "misfortune, who having debated upon
 "the most proper methods to serve you,
 "determined that none would be so ef-
 "fectual as stating the case to the Spanish
 "ambassador here, and imploring his as-
 "sistance. A very moving address was
 "accordingly drawn up, and I delivered it
 "myself to his excellency, who resolving
 "to make a national affair of it, by a very
 "warm application procured your liberty.
 "But you need not wonder that the people
 "of Paris, who are very jealous of what
 "blow I

" they

“ they suppose their honour, look upon
 “ you with no great satisfaction, when
 “ many of them regard their government
 “ as having been forced to give you up to
 “ the warm remonstrance of the Spanish
 “ ambassador. Though, after all, it was
 “ a terrible consideration, that for the
 “ spleen of a boy, an innocent person
 “ should be imprisoned, and confined in a
 “ dungeon, as would most certainly have
 “ been your case, if it had not been for the
 “ intercession of some who knew those that
 “ had the direction of your disposal in the
 “ prison, and to their intreaties added very
 “ *weighty arguments*, to procure you a
 “ little better treatment . . . But think no
 “ more of all this which is past. I know
 “ you have a desire to return to Spain ; but
 “ it is proper that you should wait till we
 “ are recalled, I expect not this for some
 “ time, as I am fixed here with the duke.
 “ Considering every circumstance, it hap-
 “ pens well that this is not your case. I
 “ would not, in effect, have you leave
 “ France ; because I apprehend a farther
 “ mission may be intended ; but I would
 “ by

" by all means have you quit Paris, where
 " I can easily foresee you will not, in your
 " case, meet with much satisfaction if you
 " should stay. There are many cities in
 " the distant provinces, whither you may
 " betake yourself, and I believe I can get
 " you such recommendatory letters to the
 " superiors of the colleges there, as will
 " procure you a favourable reception from
 " them, and ensure you a cordial treat-
 " ment, till you hear farther from your
 " native country ; but do not think of re-
 " turning. Consider that you would ne-
 " ver have been ordained in a manner
 " which was dispensing with the received
 " customs of the order, if it were not ex-
 " pected that you should do the order some
 " service in return. Therefore you will
 " do well to follow this advice which I give
 " you, and attend the result of the deter-
 " minations of the college at Saragossa,
 " which, as I am well assured, waits but
 " for dispatches from Rome, to send us
 " some farther instructions. In the mean
 " time, persevere in prudence and in con-
 " stancy, and fail not to correspond with
 " me

“ me, in what part soever of the kingdom
 “ you may be placed. For my own part,
 “ I shall ever esteem you as my dear bro-
 “ ther and companion, and shall think
 “ myself always obliged, in friendship and
 “ christianity, to give you all the advice
 “ and assistance in my power.”

This speech somewhat revived our Gaspar, who promised to take his friend's advice, and in consequence of it, had now nothing more at heart, than to quit Paris, and to set out for some of the distant provinces as soon as possible, for which purpose, his friend was to call within a few days upon him, with letters of recommendation. In the interim, he was constrained, (contrary to the usage of the Jesuits, when there is a house of their order in the city) to lodge at an inn, because it was not agreeable to his college to receive him.

When the reader considers all this, he will perhaps, think the treatment extraordinary; but he is to remember, that as there is no set of men who are oftener attacked in regard to their morals than the Jesuits have been, not only by protestants,

but

but by persons of their own church, so at this day, there is not a set of men in the world more careful to preserve the appearance of a good and fair character, without which, they are fully convinced that it would be utterly impossible for them to carry on their schemes; and, on this account, though no people on earth can be more ready to palliate the greatest crimes committed by their members, as long as it is possible to screen them from public shame, yet when *that* is no longer to be done, they will be ready to disclaim all connexions with them, even though they should be certain of their innocence. It was upon this principle that they had acted by Gaspar, and he thought he had cause enough to curse their maxims, which had wrought him so much anxiety and uneasiness.

C H A P. XVIII.

*Gaspar meets again with his Sister, and hears
News of a near Relation.*

WHEN our hero had returned to his inn one morning, from taking his usual walk, he was informed that two persons had been there to ask for him, and would return again, and while he was enquiring what sort of people they were, the very persons entered, and proved to be no other than Narbonne and Eliza. Our hero was rejoiced at meeting with his sister, and perhaps was better pleased at the sight of his ancient patron, than he had a right to be with one who had been the first to lead him into the paths of vice. After the first salutations were over, he enquired into the state of his sister's perplexed affairs, when he was informed that her second husband was dead of his wounds, but of her first she had heard no manner of tidings; "But I can give you some," said she, "of a very near relation; I mean no other
" than

“ than him who has proved to be our
 “ father.—He is now in the New World,
 “ having been admitted at the Jesuits
 “ college at Rome, and by them sent to
 “ Paraguay, to assist the fathers at their
 “ college in the Assumption, which is the
 “ capital of that settlement, as I under-
 “ stand: and probably he is at this time
 “ employed in giving laws to nations; so
 “ highly is the habit you wear advanced in
 “ that part of the world. His banishment
 “ therefore has proved happy to him, and
 “ all who bear any relation to him may re-
 “ joice in it. Of this Bertram de Torres
 “ informed me, who has, at length, heard
 “ from him, and has, before this time,
 “ written, to inform him how he has found
 “ out his children, and in what manner
 “ they are situated. I left him behind me
 “ a few miles upon the road, where he
 “ met with some persons whom he had oc-
 “ casion to speak with; and immediately
 “ on our arrival, Doctor Narbonne sent
 “ to enquire for you at the college, from
 “ whence we were directed hither, where
 “ at last we have happily met with you.”

Gaspar,

Gaspar having heard this, now proceeded to ask his sister what was her final intention, to which she replied, "That it was to throw herself into some convent, where she might pass the remainder of her days in pious peace and tranquillity." "If that be the case then, my dear," said her brother, "I would by all means have you endeavour to pass them in peace and tranquillity at home; I mean in some place, no matter in what nation or climate, where you can obtain a comfortable settlement. You are yet young, and have been but too much acquainted with the world, so easily to part with its pleasures; and believe me, sister, every sigh that you heave after them, when you shall once have formally renounced them, will be fetched from the very bottom of your heart with redoubled pain. Besides, I fear that when you seek tranquillity in a monastic life, you seek what you cannot always be certain of finding there; and if you should (after renouncing every other joy) be disappointed in that, how terrible would be

" the

the disappointment! I speak now before
 none but ourselves, and my old patron,
 and I may well appeal to him for the
 confirmation of what I say: It is but too
 plain, that many of our monasteries are
 not those temples of virtue which they
 would seem, but quite the contrary;
 and in the very best of them, where the
 virtue of *chastity* is preserved, its pre-
 sence seems as if it were intended only
 to make amends for the absence of all
 the others. There you may see Pride,
 and Envy, and Anger, in the room
 of Meekness, Love, and Benevolence.
 There plots and contrivances, mischiefs,
 and slander, are as much encouraged as in
 the world these saints pretend to fly from.
 Many are forced into the state, and there-
 fore hate it: others retire from a disgust
 they have taken against all society, and
 therefore are not happier in that than in
 any other, and if you meet, by chance:
 with some gentle creature, who is im-
 mured in a convent, because her meek-
 ness would not support her amidst the
 storms of a troublesome world, she ge-
 nerally

“ nerally finds that she has been unhappy
 “ enough to mistake her harbour, and that
 “ she has sacrificed all the real comforts of
 “ life, to a misplaced desire of such a
 “ peaceful retirement, as she is little likely
 “ to find in the place whither she has
 “ fled to seek it. Deceived by the mere
 “ flattering appearance of a *noviciate*,
 “ joined to a fervour which cannot last for
 “ ever, she finds too late the fatal mistake,
 “ and laments without ceasing, what alas!
 “ is never to be remedied. Then she may
 “ shut herself up in her cell, and there
 “ converse with ceaseless sighs and tears;
 “ there her poor heart may burst with a
 “ weight of anguish, which she cannot
 “ find the means of discharging but in so-
 “ litude; till, at last, grief preying upon
 “ her vitals, the grave, the last retreat of
 “ the wretched, receives her; and (cut off
 “ in the flower of her youth) she is deprived
 “ of that life which might perhaps have
 “ been continued to her through a long
 “ series of happy years, if she had only
 “ been fortunate enough to have been dis-
 “ coursed with in the manner I now ad-
 “ dress

address you. Consider therefore, consider seriously, my sister, whether what I have said be not worth a reflexion, before it is too late, and trust not to the vain tales you are told of a peace which is not to be found, and a tranquillity which exists no where but in imagination."

This discourse of Gaspar's, had so much effect upon his sister, that she promised to weigh the matter more maturely before she determined to retreat from the world; at the same time that she could not help observing, that it was highly necessary for her to retire to some place where she might remain her own mistress, as she had a great objection to living with M. de Sampre, after what had passed, and was under apprehensions, that by his assiduities, he would one day or other find her out, and solicit, or even perhaps command her return. But in regard to this, her brother observed to her, if she only retired to some country town, and went by another name, how little likely he would be ever to find her out, and as he himself now entertained thoughts of going to some of the remote provinces,

proposed to her to accompany him thither.²
 This she said she would pause upon; and
 then Gaspar turning to Narbonne, asked
 him what course he intended to take, who
 answered, that he would use his endeavours
 to purchase a commission in the French
 king's, or some other foreign prince's
 troops, and change the habit of a clergy-
 man for that of a soldier, which, he said,
 was far better suited to his inclinations, an
 assertion that his late disciple could not
 help making some difficulty to acquiesce
 in, when he considered the extent of real
 learning which his patron seemed possessed
 of, and that ready wit with which he ge-
 nerally applied it to his purposes; but the
 vicar stopped his observations, by remark-
 ing what many people would do well to
 take notice of, viz. That *inclination* is one
 thing, and *ability* another; now nothing is
 more common than to find men daily mis-
 calling and misapprehending their *inclina-
 tion* for any particular science for *ability*;
 but as for Narbonne, in this case he said
 he had the luck of having his *ability* mis-
 called *inclination*, "And yet," added he,
 "it

"it is so vastly different, that whatever
 "progress you may think I have made in
 "divinity or school learning, I do assure
 "you it has been effected by nothing else
 "but mere dint of application, and there
 "is scarcely any other art or science in
 "which I should not have made double
 "the proficiency, without half the ex-
 "pence of money, time and labour. It
 "was the profession of my friends choice,
 "not of my own; but when I saw that it
 "was the only one by which I had any
 "chance of rising in the world, I thought
 "myself bound to apply to it, and ac-
 "cordingly I did so. I will not tell you
 "indeed, that the knowledge I reaped
 "from my studies was not really agreeable
 "to me; but all that is useful in that
 "knowledge, is no more than I would
 "have strove to gain if it had borne no
 "manner of relation to my profession.
 "But it is not with the scientific part of it
 "that I quarrel; it is with those strictnesses,
 "which not agreeing with my temper and
 "constitution, must inevitably either per-
 "petually drive me to what men call ex-
 "cesses,

“cesses, and are ever ready enough to
 “censure and punish in their neighbours;
 “though not in themselves, or else they
 “must render my whole life unhappy; a
 “thing which I can never hold myself
 “bounden to do by any law, vow, or obli-
 “gation of any sort whatsoever. My dis-
 “like to these rigid maxims, which I have
 “always despised, and the inconveniences
 “which in my sacerdotal station attended
 “the breach of them, are the grounds of
 “my present declaration, and of my reso-
 “lution of chusing a profession so opposite
 “as that of arms, where all men may
 “openly indulge those inclinations, which
 “in the other drive them to skulk in cor-
 “ners. Thus I have explained to you the
 “nature of my design, and repeated how
 “unfit I am for the profession of a priest,
 “of which indeed you might have seen
 “proofs sufficient during your stay with
 “me.”

Here Narbonne ended, and Gaspar
 could but acknowledge that he had given
 a true testimony of himself, which was so
 much the more extraordinary, when he

con-

considered his hypocritical character; but the truth was this, the good doctor was one of those who are always most cautious how they carry on their mal-practices, till they are detected once in some notorious villainy, and then they pull off the mask, and bid farewell to even the shadow of decency or virtue.—Narbonnez had long worn a semblance of piety to the world, till the affair of Aurelia Guzman, and then he was entirely blown. Most of his evil actions were presently published, and altogether contributed to betray him, which being once done, he was less scrupulous of concealing his deeds for the future, and would talk freely of such exploits as his own, as before that period he would have affected to tremble at the bare mention of; and this being the case, he did well to chuse the army, where there was little question but he might follow his lewdest and most abandoned pleasures without restraint, provided that he did not interfere with those of others. This was the scheme of life that he had now

determined upon, and no body took any pains to dissuade him from it.

C H A P. XIX.

Gaspar obtains his recommendatory Letters, and travels over the Provinces.

According to the time appointed, Gaspar's friend called upon him at his inn, and presented him the letters he had promised, which having obtained, he prepared as soon as possible to be gone from Paris, and Narbonne, who had an inclination to accompany his disciples, set out with him and Eliza for Brittany and Normandy, taking several of the most remarkable places in their way, and making it a journey of pleasure, rather than of business.

This quondam priest, now freed from all restraint, dressed himself in scarlet, and played a thousand pranks wherever he came, without fear of censure or reproof, whilst our hero, on his part, was obliged

to adopt a caution like his before he was dismissed from his function. They went from town to town where they could find a college or house of Jesuits, who were always sure to give them some of entertainment, and who always instructed their brother in the nature of the neighbourhood, which sometimes it greatly behoved him to be acquainted with. Thus they continued travelling, Narbonne finding out some fresh pleasure in every village he passed through, and Gaspar seeking out the Jesuits colleges in all parts of the kingdom, by all of whom he was a little better received than he was by the fathers at Paris, after his return from the Bastile. As to Eliza, the vicar pretended to address her, and his courtship helped to pass away the time; though it was highly probable that he would have made something more than a diversion of it, if the lady had been willing; but she had already had too great a variety of connexions for her peace, and she was far from desiring any more; which she told her new lover so plainly, that he at last thought proper to desist, and

leave her to her own will; which, however perverse he might deem it, was, in this place at least, properly enough disposed to maintain to her the little store of comfort she still had left, which entirely depended on her not regarding the addresses of any person whatsoever.

Having passed through many towns of France, Narbonne openly, and if fame said true, our hero privately giving a loose rein to their passions, they at length visited Glais, where they had not remained a day, before Gaspar received a letter from Vafquez de Gonsalvo, inclosing an order from the college at Saragossa, which declared that by the express command of the sovereign pontiff, they were required to recall the eldest of their missionaries into Spain, and to send the other into Ireland, upon special matters, that certain inclosed letters explained, and according to this order the Saragossa college went on to inform Gaspar that they had thought proper to recall Gonsalvo, and to send him upon the Irish expedition, for which he was enjoined to take up the necessary expences

at

at certain particular colleges; and that being done, to set off with all possible expedition, whenever the winds and seas proved favourable. This our hero resolved to do, and accordingly made no delay in getting all things ready for his expedition, which though he had heard was in the land of heretics, yet he was very curious to see, as it was a place of which he had heard many remarkable things related. He communicated the tidings to his sister, and asked her if she would chuse to take a voyage with him, which, considering that she had as yet fixed upon no settled method of proceeding, seemed as eligible as any other course left her to pursue. Therefore, after a pause, she consented, on condition that she should for the present be placed in one of the Catholic convents there, not as a nun, but merely as a boarder, in order that she might herself judge of the propriety of her brother's assertions. This being readily allowed, they agreed with the master of a trading vessel for their passage, and embarked with a fair wind for the place of their destination.—

tion. As to Nabonhez, he turned back to Paris, an agent of his at that city sending him news of a commission which he had employed him to procure in the French army, and which he was now on the point of obtaining for him on very advantageous terms; a matter that afforded him no small satisfaction.

Among the passengers, Gaspar thought he discovered a face which he was not unacquainted with, and on a nearer inspection, knew the countenance for that of the generous Don Carlos, whose brother he had met with on his way to Madrid, and who had the misfortune to be murdered by the assassins. He saluted the gentleman directly, but was not so immediately known to him, on his part, his Jesuit's habit concealing him effectually from one who had never seen him but twice, and both these times in a quite different garb from that which the religious of any order could be supposed to wear. However, as soon as our hero told him his name, and mentioned the circumstances of his brother Alphonso's death, and

the

the affair of the trial to him; that gentleman easily recognised him; but was not a little surprized to find him become one of the society of Jesus, a change with which (though far from being given to impertinent enquiries) he could not but be so much astonished at, that he ventured at last to be curious enough to ask the reason of it. When they were alone together in the cabin, to satisfy his curiosity, the father briefly recounted to him some of the most extraordinary adventures of his life, which the other listening to with a serious attention, he seemed pleased with the change, and said with a serious air, "Well, Signor de Vega, then since Heaven, after ally has been pleased to call you to this state, I hope you will find in a monastic life, all the happiness that pious men and saints in every age have experienced here, and be translated when the evening of life shall arrive, by an easy transition to a more durable felicity hereafter, where the righteous are rewarded, and the good rest from their labours."

The reader will easily imagine from the arguments the person whom this was addressed to, but a little while before, had used against a monastic life, how little effect this discourse had upon him; nevertheless as it appeared to flow entirely from an unfeigned piety, he thought proper to pay due respect to the speech for the sake of the speaker, of whom he also, in his turn, intreated, if it were not a secret, to be informed of the reasons which had induced him to quit his native country; to which the good gentleman answered with the greatest affability, that he knew of no event of any consequence in his life, that he could think he had any occasion to conceal; that his story was short, and the cause of his leaving Spain such as he had the greatest reason to suppose he should never repent; and though, added he, smiling, the great motive to my actions be such as you, gentlemen, have forsworn, yet I hope you will not have the lighter opinion of me, only for following it, whilst it is innocent; but acknowledge that in such a case, if it be a failing, yet
it

it cannot be called, with justice, a criminal one. Having premised thus much, he proceeded, as will be seen, in the following pages.

CHAP. XX.

Don Carlos's Story. — A Storm at Sea, or with its Consequences. — Gaspar arrives at Dublin.

AFTER the melancholy event of my brother's death," said Don Carlos, "I lived for a great while retired at my country seat, and would not be seen by any but my most particular friends, and such as came to condole with me for that misfortune, for which I thought all the wealth inherited by it to be but a poor recompence. — The whole year allotted for ceremonious mourning, I passed thus in a real grief and trouble of heart, that far surpassed all outward marks of sorrow. Soon after, the king, who had been solicited

"solicited by some of my friends unknown
 "to me, thought proper to appoint me
 "to a considerable post of honour at Ma-
 "drid, and the first I heard of it was my
 "being sent for to court, in order to be put
 "in possession of it. There was no re-
 "sisting the mandate; but I protest I left
 "the country with the greatest reluctance;
 "and though I was always of opinion
 "that either business or diversion seldom
 "fail to eradicate grief, yet I had the
 "greatest objection to applying the reme-
 "dy. When I arrived at the capital, I
 "appeared more like to a man that was
 "come to receive sentence for some crime,
 "than one who came to take possession of
 "a desirable employment. The courtiers
 "observed it equally with my friends in
 "the city, and paid me several formal
 "compliments upon the subject, which at
 "that time I would much rather have been
 "excused from hearing. Having been
 "introduced to my place, I soon found
 "that I must quit for it all thoughts of
 "living at my country residence for more
 "than

"than three months in the year, as all
 "the rest of my time I must be personally
 "present at the capital. My attendance
 "was likewise much oftener required at
 "court than I could have wished; and it
 "is to that circumstance of its duties that
 "you owe the seeing me embarked upon
 "the ocean. It was one of the days when I
 "was obliged to attend his majesty's levee;
 "that I was given to understand my pre-
 "sence would be expected at the ball in
 "the evening, whither I went, but with-
 "out any of my usual gaiety about me.
 "Little did I think what would be the
 "consequence to me of that night's ad-
 "venture; little did I imagine, that in a
 "heart so downcast as mine, love would
 "find an avenue to enter. But it was
 "otherwise, and I found that the mind
 "softened by grief, was not the less suscep-
 "tible of this much more tender passion.
 "In short, just at a time when I least ex-
 "pected it, I was caught in the snare; for
 "I espied at this court-ball a foreign lady,
 "who engrossed all my attention; she was
 "under the conduct of an elderly gentle-
 "man,

"man, who seemed to be extremely care-
 "ful of her, and watched her, as I
 "thought, with a caution that had the
 "appearance of jealousy. As I had fixed
 "my eyes upon her in such a manner,
 "that I seemed to take notice of no body
 "else, a particular friend of mine came up
 "to me, and slapping me on the shoulder,
 "Signor Don Carlos," said he, "you
 "seem to be quite smitten with that lady.
 "Do you know who she is?" When I
 "answered in the negative, "Well then,"
 "said he, in a whisper, "I can tell you that
 "she is an English lady; that gentleman
 "is a native of Ireland, and her guardian.
 "If you please, I can find the means of
 "introducing you to them both, as I am
 "very well acquainted with him, and we
 "often drink a bottle together." I thank-
 "ed my friend for his kindness, and en-
 "deavoured to keep my eyes off the lady
 "as much as I could during the rest of
 "the evening, that I might not make
 "myself remarkable by my behaviour;
 "but in vain: I was still so fixed in the
 "contemplation of her beauties, that I
 "was not
 "minded

" minded not any thing which was pass-
 " ing around me, but more especially at
 " my departure; then I called one person
 " by another's name; I took my sword in
 " my hand, and put my cane by my side;
 " in short, I made a thousand blunders;
 " my ideas being so much taken up with
 " the object I was about to quit, that
 " a total absence of mind ensued, till I
 " was suddenly roused by the lady's passing
 " close by me, conducted by the old gentle-
 " man to her carriage; I then started, and
 " made an effort to follow her: indeed I
 " do not know whether I should not have
 " been rude enough to have pushed her old
 " gallant aside, and intruded my services
 " upon the lady in his stead, if my friend,
 " who was just at my elbow, had not
 " checked and prevented me. He begged
 " leave to accompany me home, and per-
 " ceiving the strange agitation which the
 " transitory view of this real beauty had
 " occasioned in my mind, he entered into
 " a discourse concerning her, by the
 " way, wherein he informed me of all
 " that he knew concerning her, which,
 " how-

However, could not be expected to be
 much, as she had not been in Spain a-
 bove three months. But his acquaint-
 ance with M. Oberne, her guardian, was
 of some years standing. He told me that
 he was an Irish merchant, who had been
 always in very good circumstances ever
 since he knew him, and would long
 since have purchased an estate in his own
 country; but for those oppressive laws
 which were in force there against the
 catholics, of whose communion he was
 a member. He said he inveighed no less
 against the restrictions that England
 had laid upon the trade of that country,
 which otherwise would bid fair to outvie
 them in commerce, and by his dislike
 for the English, had contracted a gene-
 ral love for foreigners, that, much
 more than his business, often induced
 him to visit other countries. Spain, for
 some reason or other, he seemed parti-
 cularly attached to, and declared that he
 should like to spend his days there, if it
 were made consistent with his interest
 and commercial concerns. It was
 not

"not long since," continued my friend,
 "that a distant relation of M. Oberne's
 "dying, left this lady and her fortune to
 "his charge: he is a widower, and has a
 "nephew of his wife's, whom he is very
 "fond of, now whether he designs the
 "lady we speak of (whose name is Sidney)
 "for himself, or for this his kinsman, is
 "unknown, but most people imagine that
 "she will become the wife of one of them,
 "unless some accomplished person, like
 "yourself, should come between."

"I heard this relation with deep at-
 "tention, and, without paying any at-
 "tention to the compliment with which
 "it was concluded, began very seriously
 "to reflect on the difficulties I should
 "have, if I resolved to follow the dictates
 "of this sudden passion which I had con-
 "ceived, and had almost a mind not to
 "accept the favour intended me by my
 "friend, of introducing me to the object
 "I admired. But when he called upon
 "me two days afterwards, in order to ful-
 "fil his promise, I could not resist the
 "temptation. Accordingly, I went with

" my friend, and was brought into the
 " presence of my charmer, whom I found
 " to be very closely attended by her
 " guardians. For my part, I was politely
 " enough received by him, as being in-
 " troduced by Don Gomez; but as to the
 " lady, whether he always treated her so
 " or not, I could not at that time be satis-
 " fied; but I found that during my visit,
 " I had little more of her company (not-
 " withstanding the freedom said to be al-
 " lowed to women by her countrymen)
 " than if she had been a native of Spain.
 " The old gentleman indeed, I perceived
 " by degrees, to grow more conversible,
 " and especially when the wine was
 " brought upon the table, of which, when
 " he had drank pretty liberally, he threw
 " of all that reserve that, at the first ap-
 " pearance, had seemed to mark his cha-
 " racter. He gave me an account of his
 " family and connexions, discoursed of the
 " interests of his own country, and of
 " other nations, and sometimes told stories
 " of love and gallantry. In effect, I found
 " him at last, to be a very agreeable com-
 " panion,

"panion; and he, on his part, was so
 "well satisfied with me, that, at parting,
 "he desired my friend to bring me there
 "often; And, added he, "even if Don
 "Gomez should not be at leisure, when it
 "suits you to pay us a visit, since you
 "now know your way hither, pray come
 "alone, and do not stand upon ceremo-
 "nies."

"This was a most welcome invitation
 "to me, and I did not wait to have it
 "twice repeated. I accepted it, and, by
 "degrees, became so extremely familiar
 "with M. Oberne, that he no longer was
 "so shy of admitting his ward into our
 "parties, though we thought he still ap-
 "peared to regard her with a very cautious
 "eye. Be that as it will, by my frequent
 "visits, in spite of all his care, I at length
 "found opportunities of growing inti-
 "mate enough to venture to prefer my
 "suit to her, and was happy in not finding
 "it disagreeable; though, at the same time,
 "the mistress of my affections informed
 "me, that she was so strongly bound by
 "her father's will, that she could never
 "think of marrying without the consent
 "of

" of her guardian, and, besides, she
 " avowed herself entirely ignorant of what
 " he designed to do with her.—" Some-
 " times," said she, " I have thought by
 " his tender assiduities, that he intended
 " courtship to me himself; but I have
 " been as often led to retract that opinion,
 " when I considered that he never spoke a
 " word of such a matter to me, and that
 " his tenderness might, perhaps, more pro-
 " perly be construed into that of a parent,
 " than of a lover; yet he frequently says,
 " that he looks upon me as one of the fa-
 " mily already, and hints that I shall
 " shortly be related to it. All I can ga-
 " ther from this is, that if he has not any
 " thoughts of me himself, he intends me
 " for a kinsman of his, who has been a-
 " broad ever since I was left to his charge,
 " so that I have never yet seen him; but
 " expect that pleasure when we return a-
 " gain to Ireland."—I was fully satisfied
 " with the frankness of my mistress's de-
 " claration, and not a little pleased that my
 " rival (if such he were) had never yet
 " been introduced. The more I knew of
 " Madame

" Madame Sidney, the less could I brook
 " the thoughts of losing her, since I found
 " the beauties of her mind to be equal to
 " those of her person. Indeed I never saw
 " any, in my judgement, that could equal
 " her, either in sense or accomplishments.
 " She professed a lively and sound under-
 " standing, was prudent, affable and sin-
 " cere, and had been extremely attended
 " to in the article of breeding: she danced
 " and sang well, and spoke French as cor-
 " rectly as a native of this country. This
 " was the language in which we discoursed
 " together, though she seemed capable
 " enough of holding a conversation in
 " Spanish; but her diffidence would not
 " let her attempt it.... But here I must stop
 " short with my description, which had al-
 " most made me forget to tell you, that
 " in the course of our correspondence, my
 " mistress informed me, that I had a rival
 " in the person of one Don Rodrigo de
 " Castro, who had most earnestly and im-
 " portunately sought to be admitted into
 " her good graces; but being equally dis-
 " approved both by herself, and her guar-
 " dian,

"dian, and told so in as polite a manner as
 "could be used for the conveyance of such
 "a denial, he still continuing his intru-
 "sions, was at length forbidden the house,
 "near which he used frequently to watch,
 "and even sometimes to attempt forcing
 "an entrance with the servants, till at
 "length M. Oberne complained to the
 "corregidor, who sent him a threatening
 "message upon the subject, and set men
 "to watch and apprehend him, if he
 "should be guilty of the like offence a-
 "gain; since which time, he had been no
 "more seen or heard of.

"I took little notice of this; but some
 "time afterwards, as I was returning one
 "evening from the house, which stood a-
 "bout two miles distant from the city,
 "I saw a man muffled up, make towards
 "me, with a drawn weapon, on which I
 "also drew my rapier, and put myself
 "upon my guard, at the same time
 "calling out to him to come no nearer,
 "on which he made no other answer than
 "drawing out a pistol from his belt; firing
 "it at me, the ball took off a piece of the
 "brim

" brim of my hat, but happily did my
 " person no damage. At that instant
 " some people coming up, the robber, as
 " I took him to be, escaped, the twilight
 " favouring him ; but when I mentioned
 " this to my mistress, the next time I saw
 " her, she gave it as her opinion that this
 " was no other than De Castro, who had
 " thus lain in wait for me ; though, I must
 " own, I had no such apprehensions. How-
 " ever, she warned me, for the future, al-
 " ways to go armed, and to bring some
 " trusty friend or servant along with me ;
 " saying she would get her guardian to
 " speak to the Corregidor once more, that
 " they might be delivered from the trou-
 " blesome intruder.

" In the mean time I went and came as
 " usual, but began to think I perceived
 " some coldness in M. Oberne, and that
 " my visits were not quite so welcome as
 " usual. This I attributed to his having
 " observed the sentiments which his ward
 " and I entertained for each other ; and
 " which I feared were but too visible in our
 " behaviour, in spite of all our caution ;

“ nay, I sometimes thought he looked as
 “ if he wished to speak with me upon the
 “ subject, and at those times I always took
 “ care to avoid him, lest we should enter
 “ into some altercation about it, and the
 “ consequence might be his forbidding me
 “ the house, as he had done Don Gomez,
 “ and so cutting off all my hopes for
 “ ever.

“ One night, as I was, within about half a
 “ mile of Madrid, meditating on this mat-
 “ ter, I heard a noise of trampling behind
 “ me; when upon turning short, I could
 “ perceive by the star-light, a man pur-
 “ suing me, on which I stopped short, and
 “ presenting a pistol, as I now always went
 “ armed, demanded who he was, and
 “ what he wanted. He directly answered,
 “ my name is Gomez de Castro: I want
 “ proper satisfaction of you for intruding
 “ yourself into the favours of my mistress;
 “ and I will have your renunciation of her,
 “ or I will have your blood.” — “ Softly,
 “ if you please, Don Gomez de Castro,
 “ said I; if that be really your name, I
 “ trust you will hearken to reason. Indeed

“ I must

“ must own I could not have thought it
 “ was a gentleman of your name and re-
 “ pute, that had thus twice lain in am-
 “ bush for me, but some robber and assassin,
 “ who wanted to murder and plunder
 “ me.”—I then began to argue with him
 “ on the absurdity of his behaviour, and
 “ urged that he had no claim since he had
 “ met with no encouragement either from
 “ the guardian or the ward; with much
 “ discourse of the like nature; but it had
 “ no manner of weight with him, and he
 “ was so violent, that he would several
 “ times have cut me short in my argu-
 “ ment, by attacking me, if I had not
 “ had the advantage of fire-arms in my
 “ turn, and with my finger on the
 “ the trigger of my pistol presented cer-
 “ tain death to him, if he dared approach
 “ me.

“ All the reply he made me when I
 “ had done was, that I was a villain, and
 “ an infamous liar, and a coward besides :
 “ then he cursed himself a thousand times
 “ for not having brought his pistols, which
 “ he said he would have done, if he

“could have guessed how I should be
 “armed; and added, that I might de-
 “pend, the next time he met me, neither
 “art nor fear should save me.. “Hearkye,
 “Don Gomez,” said I, as he was turning,
 “though I am not so warm as you seem
 “to be, and would not willingly take away
 “your life; since you are so strangely bent
 “to seek mine, it will be safer for me,
 “and more honourable for you, to have
 “a meeting when we are both prepared.
 “I fear you not: if you have as much
 “courage as you would make me believe
 “you possess, name your time, place, and
 “weapons; but let us not meet at night,
 “like assassins, but in the face of day-
 “light, like gentlemen, and men of ho-
 “nour.”

“This proposal seemed to please my
 “rival, who immediately drew near, when
 “perceiving that several people were
 “coming up, I counselled him to sheath
 “his sword, and fired my pistol in the
 “air: we then settled the place of our
 “meeting, where I attended him the next
 “morning singly, by agreement; though
 “indeed,

“ indeed, at first, rather with a view of
 “ expostulating with him once more, than
 “ of engaging him, if it were any
 “ way possible to avoid it. But I soon
 “ found that I had the same rash man to
 “ deal with ; and in return for my patient
 “ and Christian-like behaviour, I met with
 “ nothing but insults ; till at last I almost
 “ blushed that I could bear with him so
 “ long. He struck me, and then drawing,
 “ put himself in a posture of defence. I
 “ was to blame, by every rule of prudence,
 “ for suffering him thus to provoke me,
 “ since the rage which his treatment in-
 “ spired me with, was such, that it must
 “ naturally have given him a great advan-
 “ tage over me ; I presently found it by a
 “ slight wound, which, however, served
 “ only to irritate me more ; so that, still
 “ fighting in anger, I received another ;
 “ but whilst my antagonist’s weapon was
 “ intangled by giving it, I ran mine with
 “ such fury into his body, that the point
 “ appeared beneath his ribs on the other
 “ side ; and, without speaking a word, he

M 3

“ fell

“ indeed”

"fell down at my feet, and with a groan
 "expired.
 "Rash as this man had been, the mo-
 "ment I saw him at my feet, and welter-
 "ing in his blood, I began to com-
 "miserate his fate so much that I was
 "quite forgetful of my own wounds, and
 "little attentive to my safety; for at the
 "very moment, whilst I was looking with
 "horror on his corpse, a servant of his
 "came behind me, and endeavoured to
 "run me through the back; but his wea-
 "pon breaking short, as it glanced
 "obliquely upon the bone, the wound
 "was but a mere trifle. Then turning, I
 "seized him by the collar, and clapping
 "my sword to his breast, vowed I would
 "dispatch his guilty soul to the other
 "world that instant, if he would not reveal
 "to me how he came to be planted there.
 "The trembling wretch confessed his
 "master had ordered him to come thither,
 "and in the midst of our engagement to
 "fall upon me; but he had not observed
 "the signal early enough to assist De
 "Castro,

"Castro, and had therefore taken this
 "method with a view of revenging what
 "he could not prevent, for which he
 "hoped to have been recompensed by
 "some of the family. . . . I then took out
 "my tablets, and obliged him to write
 "all the circumstances he had mentioned
 "there, and made him likewise swear, in
 "the most solemn manner, that he would
 "abide by the truth of them at a public
 "trial. This being done, I waited on a
 "friend of mine, who was an adept in
 "in the law, shewed him the writings,
 "and gave him my deposition. He ad-
 "vised me, however, to keep out of the
 "way a little, while he and the rest of my
 "friends made up the matter without
 "ever bringing it to a public issue. This
 "was accordingly done, and succeeded
 "well in every point but one, which was,
 "that though I was permitted, in the
 "course of a few weeks, to appear again,
 "yet I have never since seen my mistress,
 "she and her guardian having departed
 "in the mean time, as I suppose, on ac-
 "count of the noise that this affair made,

“and embarked at one of the nearest ports
 “for Dublin. It is in search of that lady
 “that I am now making this voyage,
 “which if Heaven prospers with success,
 “I hope will be the means of uniting us
 “for ever, and making me happy in an
 “amiable spouse, which I cannot help
 “looking upon to be one of the greatest
 “blessings upon earth.”

Such was Don Carlos's relation, who,
 during the course of the voyage, was never
 separated from our hero.—The first setting
 out of the vessel was prosperous, but when
 they were got into the Irish Sea, a sudden
 storm of wind arose that threatened
 every moment to destroy her. In the midst
 of this tempest, land was discovered; but
 it was then a very unwelcome sight, as it
 was far from the port they were bound
 for, and on a coast infamous for rocks and
 shoals, towards which, in spite of all their
 efforts, they found themselves inevitably
 driven.—At length the sailors themselves
 began to fear, and the passengers betook
 themselves to prayer, and other holy exer-
 cises,

cises, some of them making use of the opportunity of having a priest on board, to confess their sins, as they were Catholics, and receive his absolution. In the mean time, it is not to be supposed that our Jesuit had not his fears himself, as well as the rest of them; but if he had, he was prudent enough to conceal them, and so bold as to foretel that they would arrive safely at Dublin; a prophecy which, by encouraging the mariners, contributed, perhaps, in some measure to its own completion; but what increased their faith, and excited their wonder still more, was the following circumstance. When night came on, and the storm was not a whit abated, a lee-shore, with a ledge of rocks presented to the view a scene, where many a gallant ship had perished: the vessel leaky, the crew tired, and the wind still driving them towards that fatal place which most they strove to avoid, two sailors on the yard began a dialogue, in which they called the reverend father's veracity in question; and one of them, who was a Lutheran, could not help saying, in his

anger, " He would throw the Jesuit son
 " of a b——h over-board, if he were com-
 " mander, and he would be d——n'd if
 " he did not think that would lighten the
 " ship, and give them a fair wind into the
 " bargain." But while he spoke thus,
 probably attending more to his speech
 than to his work, a sudden squall gave a
 jirk to the yard, which broke its braces,
 and, whirling with a violent motion, it
 threw them both off; one of these fell
 upon a heap of sails, and thereby re-
 ceived but a slight hurt, but the Luthe-
 ran tumbled into the sea, and thereby
 bade fair himself to lighten the ship of its
 burden. But Gaspar, who was walking,
 or rather stumbling about upon the deck,
 perceiving the man's misfortune (but ig-
 norant of the speech he had made) inform-
 ed the mate instantly of it, and begged
 he would order a grating to be thrown
 out to him, which with his own hands he
 assisted to heave out of the ship; saying,
 he doubted not but the sailor would be
 saved. And this likewise proved true;
 for the half-drowning man got upon it,
 and

and kept himself there with a rope which had been fastened to it, till the wind abated, which happened soon after, the squall that carried him off the mast having changed its point. He was then taken on board, and having related every circumstance, owned the thing to be very surprizing, whilst all the rest of the crew magnified it into a miracle; and their opinions were confirmed, when, the next morning the vessel got safely into the port of Dublin.

C H A P. XXI.

Various Transactions of Gaspar in Ireland.—His Sister leaves the Nunnery where he placed her, and becomes companion to an Irish Lady.

WHEN our hero arrived in Ireland, he sought out such of his brethren as he was directed to by his letters, which he shewed them, and which contained chiefly documents calculated for

still keeping alive the catholic religion in
 Ireland, which it was said a native of Li-
 merick, who had lately been at Rome, had
 assured his holiness might soon be restored
 to a flourishing condition: nothing, how-
 ever was more apparent than that, either
 through malice or misfortune (if it were
 really true that he did so) he had given a
 wrong information, as Gaspar easily found;
 for having placed his sister in one of these
 private societies, which yet remain under
 the name of Nunneries in Ireland, he set
 himself to examine the state of the catho-
 lics in that kingdom; where he found,
 that, among the higher rank of people,
 they were diminished to a very few, whom
 the wisdom of government thought fit suf-
 ficiently to keep under, by double taxes,
 and several prohibitions; and that in one
 part of the island, their very opposites, the
 northern sectaries, had been transplanted,
 and served as a check upon them, while
 the chief body of their profession was re-
 duced to a rude, wild, and impotent rab-
 ble; and even these were daily decreasing
 in proportion as they saw the advantages
 result-

resulting from a real or pretended change of their religious sentiments: and if in themselves the alteration were but *feigned*, in their children the force of education made it *real*.—In short, he every day heard of abjurations made by the catholics but never of profelytes gained by them, which indeed could not be considered as a subject of any great wonder, where spiritual rectitude and worldly advantage were joined, as it were, hand in hand, to allure those who had erred to the paths of truth, and to offer them what was, at the same time, conducive to their temporal and eternal advantage.

Gaspar seeing these things, wondered much at the charge he had received, and was almost inclined to think he had been sent hither rather with a view to remove him out of the way, than for any other reason. To say the truth, he had long perceived that there was too much deceit in churchmen to trust them implicitly in any thing; so he resolved, in return for being sent on so strange a message, to attend but little to it, on his part; and being in a country

country where the religion was barely *tolerated*, as he knew no body would be *forward* to call him to an account for the breach of its rules, he was not very strict in the observance of them. He got himself, however, appointed confessor to the widow of an Irish catholic gentleman, who was herself of Spanish extraction, and found means, by her bounty, to support his sister in the nunnery we mentioned above, who was even prevailed upon to enter on her noviciate; but at the end of the term allotted for probation, refused to take the veil, being, by that time, become fully sensible of the force of the arguments which her brother had used against a monastic life. Her husband, M. de Sampre, in the mean time, had in vain sought her all over France, till at last having heard of her retreat to Ireland, he hastened thither, embarked on board a little vessel, bound for Cork, which unhappily foundered at sea, and himself, together with all the crew, went to the bottom with her.

The

The lady we have spoken of dying, our Jesuit afterwards took the care of a rich gentleman's conscience, which, in about a twelvemonth's time, became so very squeamish, that it was troubled with frequent qualms, lest he should not have chosen a right religion; to quiet which, or rather for the sake of the remission of one half of his taxes, and the offer of a place at court, he turned Protestant, and told all his tenants they were in a ready road to be d--n'd, if they did not do the same.

A Jewish proselyte next employed Gaspar's cares, and he found him very sincere and zealous; but he was soon eased of the toil he took for his soul's good, by some of the more zealous Hebrews privately murdering him, in honour of their nation, and to the great satisfaction of all the true sons of Abraham.

The last person to whom our good father officiated as confessor, was a young Irish baronet, who was a *good catholic*, though he could scarcely be styled a good man, since
he

he gave into all manner of lewdness, drunkenness, and debauchery; yet he was very charitable to the church, and always ready either to submit to the penance ordered him, or else, which was better, to buy it off, at the expence of a great number of masses; so that Gaspar and he never fell out for some years that he stayed with him; during which time his sister was obliged to wait on an Irish lady, who likewise sometimes required his spiritual advice and assistance.

Gaspar himself all this while went on deceiving the common people of the island, such as we have described them, with false miracles, pretended revelations, and a thousand of those frauds, which the church of Rome deems *pious*, and which her members have too often sanctified by their example. These he often turned to his own private emolument, deserted as he was by the members of his own society in Rome, in France, and Spain, and likely to reap but little support from those in Ireland. The accounts he had transmitted were doubtless little pleasing to the former,

yd

if

if the purport of their boasts in their letters to him were true ; and as to the latter, whatever they might have to bestow, they were not fond of making him a partaker of, because he had refused to second many stories, which it was their opinion should be authorized and encouraged; but this was a point from which he thought he should draw little advantage in belying his conscience.

While things passed thus, he had often, from time to time, seen Don Carlos, who had failed of carrying his point with Miss Sidney; but was not without hopes that it might yet be brought to bear. He had seen and conversed with M. Oberne, since his arrival in Ireland, and found that he was far from having himself any designs upon his ward; but he originally intended her for his nephew, of whom, however, he said, he had in some measure changed his opinion. This nephew of his was in England, whither the old gentleman went with his beauteous charge; but was brought to promise to let Don Carlos hear from him, and to deliver his final answer by

by letter; engaging his word and honour not to proceed any farther in the affair, nor make any match for her till he had acquainted him with it. All things considered, this was carrying the matter as far as it was proper to urge it at that time, and so it rested, till it occasioned Don Carlos another voyage, as will be seen in the sequel.

CHAP. XXII.

Gaspar's Proceedings in England. His Sickness, and the Change that it wrought in his Mind.

IT was now a long time since Gaspar had received any news from Spain; and as to the college of Jesuits, the fathers there seemed to have forgotten that such a person existed. At this time Sir C—— L——, then his patron, was preparing to set out for England, and resolved that his confessor should accompany him thither; to which proposal he,

on

on his part, found no manner of objection:—on the contrary, now he was so near to it, he had a curiosity to see a land he had heard so much talked of, and was extremely pleased that he should have such an opportunity.

Previously, however, to this intended voyage, he visited his sister, whom he found very agreeably situated with the Lady M—, and who was likely to remain with her ladyship during her life, perhaps much the easier and happier for the death of both her husbands.

He then visited all the religious whom he was acquainted with, and informed them of his departure, taking in charge such commissions as any of them had to execute, and promising, from time to time, to keep up a correspondence with them in his absence, as far as it might be for their mutual service, and for the benefit of that church of which they were members.

These matters being settled, he gave notice to his penitent that he was ready to attend him, who soon after procured accommodations

commodations for them both in the packet, on board of which, they shipped themselves for England, and arrived, after a prosperous voyage, at Parkgate, from whence they took a post-chaise immediately for London.

Though our hero had seen both Paris and Madrid, yet he found reason sufficient for expressing his admiration at the size and elegance of this capital, which, all things considered, appeared for beauty and convenience, as the first city in the world. It was to very handsome lodgings, in one of the new streets of Westminster, that the baronet first repaired, till he could have a large house fitted up according to his mind in Pall-Mall, whither in a few months time he removed. In the interim, our hero, who had now thrown off his habit, was lodged in very neat apartments not far off, at his expence.—As soon as he had an opportunity, he visited the ambassadors chapels, so much talked of for their grandeur by many protestants, in which however, he was so far from finding any thing to extol, that he thought every thing
about

about him wonderfully plain, when compared with those magnificent places of worship which he had seen in his own country; the *protestant churches* appeared still plainer to him, yet he could not help owning that there was a decent neatness and becoming gravity, in the few ornaments they had, which shewed much of the *simplex munditiis* so justly admired by the most sensible men, in whatever respects religion and its appendages.

Being now at full liberty to act without any of the restraints of his order; and, on the contrary, most likely to suffer for professing it, he made no difficulty, where there was no community, of taking money for his own proper use, (notwithstanding his vow of *poverty*) and applying it as best might suit his convenience or his pleasure, and to the last he now more than ever began to give himself, insomuch that of a *religious*, he seemed like to become a *dissolute* person. Setting aside his attendance upon the baronet, he performed none of the functions of his order, and in that part of it was obliged to be secret, on

account of the country he was in, lest he might have made a second prison adventure. All the remainder of his time, he spent in such a manner as was most suitable to his fancy; and in the course of it, he threw aside the *manners*, as well as he had done the *habit* of a clergyman, and to shew that he had entirely lost all regard for his vow, we are obliged as faithful historians to observe, that at this time he was about to take into absolute keeping, a young millener in the neighbourhood, when it pleased Heaven to afflict him with a severe fit of sickness, occasioned originally by a surfeit, which being rendered still worse by a cold he caught immediately upon it, had reduced him to the lowestebb of spirits, and put his life in danger, notwithstanding the attendance of two eminent physicians, to whom the baronet gave the charge of his health. In short, he now began to give himself over for lost, and that apprehension brought all his evil deeds fresh to his memory.—The mind of man is never so much set upon heavenly things as when visited by affliction;

tion : prayers and penitence are her daughters, and her offspring contrition and tears. Gaspar now repented of his past faults, and unfeignedly vowed amendment of life, if it should please heaven to allow him to recover from this his disorder. His prayer was at last heard, a favourable crisis ensued, when it was least expected, and Gaspar de Vega, once more restored to health, forgot not his promise. In short, he set about a reformation, and rested not till he became a new man. The first tidings he heard when he recovered, were of a disgrace that had happened to the Jesuits in Spain; private letters from his friends there, soon afterwards, which were forwarded to him from Ireland, gave him a circumstantial account of their expulsion at one and the same time, from all the dominions of his Catholic Majesty in Europe; a blow which perhaps was as much deserved, as it was little expected. Gaspar was surpris'd at it; indeed so was every one that was not in the secret; but he was not much concerned. He knew in his heart that these fathers were far from being the
 patterns

patterns of piety and virtue, which they would wish men to think them, and, indeed on all accounts entertained not any very passionate desire to herd with them again. In England, he had been told by the natives, that there were whole swarms of Jesuits, and the account of these was doubled after the above-mentioned expulsion. Every one who was in the least reserved, and whose method of living the common people were not acquainted with, was set down for a Jesuit, because he would not tell his business to all the world; yet in the course of his residence here, our hero met with but one of this order, and perhaps HE was never suspected by the persons who pretended to be so much terrified with the dreadful apprehensions of being over-run by these emigrants.

The English, he used indeed often to say, were a brave and generous people, but extremely credulous and whimsical, and fickle in their public opinions. He observed, that they were often troubled with vain fears and wanderings of the mind, which arose from relaxed nerves in their body

body politic, as similar complaints do in the natural body, and he insisted that every day gave some fresh proof of his assertion. Altogether, he acknowledged, that any man might live as happily here, as on any spot in the world, and to confirm the opinion, he declared he had no intention of returning to his native country. However, he had strove to conciliate the affections of the people, and, generally speaking, they behaved so well to him, that he found no occasion to discommend their hospitality.

C H A P. XXIN.

Gaspar meets with two old Acquaintances, and by one of them hears News of the Death of his Father.

ONE day as our hero, after his recovery, was walking in the streets of London, he met with his friend Don Carlos, who immediately stopped and spoke to him.—They then retired together to the Lodgings of the former, where upon enquiry, he informed him of his

situation, and the principal occurrences which had happened to him since his arrival in England; nor did he omit to mention his sickness, and confess the dissolute life he had hitherto led, and his vow to amend it, which he said he would endeavour to keep, and labour with all his might in the vineyard of good works, in order if possible to atone for what was past, and secure to himself such pleasures as were more durable than any that could be expected here below.

Don Carlos, who was a good and worthy man, was delighted to hear Gaspar talk thus; though being of a very charitable disposition, he could never have believed half the things which his friend reported of himself, if they had not come from his own mouth; and even as it was, he would have doubted if an excess of piety and humility did not lead him to accuse himself, if he had not remembered some reports that were spread to his disadvantage after he had left Ireland. As it was, he commended him much, and exhorted him to persevere in his good designs.

signs. When he was asked, in his turn,
 how his affairs went on, he answered
 much better than he expected, " For,
 (added he) " the old gentleman, who is
 " far from being so whimsical as at first I
 " took him to be, finding his nephew to
 " be defective in chastity and sobriety,
 " and far from retaining that amiable dis-
 " position, that he, judging from his
 " childhood, (as he had not seen him since,
 " till he met him here in England) had
 " supposed him still to retain; observing
 " all these defects, which no threatnings
 " could correct, no patience nor mildness
 " alter, he after due warning given, to no
 " purpose, declared himself acquitted of a
 " conditional promise given to dispose of
 " his child to him, if he should prove
 " worthy of her, and sending for me over,
 " has now assured me in the most solemn
 " manner, that I shall have his consent
 " within a month to marry her. I might
 " apply to you to perform this ceremony,
 " but I find such a marriage would not
 " be valid here. Besides, to tell you freely
 " my mind, I begin to waver in regard to
 angli

" my religious opinions, and do not know
 " whether I may not turn what some will
 " call a heretic at last ; but, to return to
 " my discussion of the wedding ; I would
 " have both you and your sister, if possi-
 " ble, be present at it. If you will send
 " for her over, as soon as the day is fixed,
 " we will take care to make some provi-
 " sion for her in London ; and, as for your-
 " self, I shall ever be glad to see, and no
 " less to serve you, whom I was once so
 " near injuring, perhaps irreparably, both
 " in your person and character."

Gaspar thanked the friendly Spaniard for
 his kind offer, took his direction, and
 promised to come to see him. As they
 proceeded farther in discourse, he could
 not help speaking freely enough of what
 was called the *catholic* religion, which
 he now stood convinced was mixed with a
 thousand errors and absurdities. And
 when he had spoken so plain, Don Carlos
 as plainly told him, that he had had some
 conversation with Protestants of great sense
 and learning, whose arguments had gained
 so much weight with him, as to cause him

to abjure the Roman faith, (a step, which as it was plainly taken for the sake of his conscience, could merit no reproach) and exhorted him to do the same, as the only method to restore peace and tranquility to his troubled mind. Our hero replied, he would consider of it at a leisure hour; and so the two friends parted.—But Carlos had scarcely turned his back, when he saw another friend pass by . . . no less a person than Bertram de Torres, whom calling back to him, he desired to know whether he had been lately in Spain, and what tidings there were from that quarter. His friend told him he had not been there since last he saw him; but said he had generally the most authentic accounts, and by all these the *Expulsion* was mentioned as a fact well known, and hinted that it was supposed this was only a prelude to other potentates doing the same. “But,” said he, “I have heard
 “from one of the order, who is in a place
 “from whence they cannot *expel* him.
 “I must for once be the messenger of melancholy news. — Your father is de-

"ascended to the grave; but before he
 "died, he became one of the principal
 "Christian chiefs of the territory of Para-
 "guay, where he acted as governor, le-
 "gislator, and soldier; in a word, he was
 "appointed in the end to rule one of the
 "most important *Reductions* or Indian pa-
 "rishes in Paraguay, where he died much
 "lamented by his parishioners and sub-
 "jects, who had such an idea of his abilities
 "for the short time that he was with them,
 "that they have surnamed him THE
 "WISE, and will for ever respect his me-
 "mory."

Though Gaspar heaved a sigh for his
 father, whom he had never seen, yet he
 was comforted to think that the evening
 of his days had been spent with so much
 credit and satisfaction; and indeed he be-
 gan to look upon this New World as the
 only place where the Jesuits society had
 been of any use, either to the governors
 or to the governed. For his own part, hav-
 ing thrown by the habit, he was now firmly
 resolved never again to wear it; the re-
 ligious itself he began to entertain every
 day

day a worse opinion of, and had almost a mind to follow Don Carlos's example, which was incontestibly a good one, and to make one grand atonement for all his crimes, by abjuring for ever that church, whose pernicious practices and bad examples had been the chief causes of his committing them. He indulged these thoughts in embryo, when he received a letter from Don Carlos, requiring to see him at his house near Grosvenor-square, whither he made all imaginable haste, and was soon admitted to his presence.

C H A P. XXIV.

Don Carlos's Marriage. — Gaspar's Abjuration. — His Friend's Generosity. — CONCLUSION.

WHEN Gaspar arrived, he found Don Carlos surrounded by his friends, and was by him introduced to Mariana, his beautiful mistress, who both in her personal and mental excellences fully answered the description and encomiums he had heard of her. — The day of his friend's marriage with his lady was fixed

fixed by M. Oberne, who was there present, and he was sent for as he had been promised, in order to invite his sister Eliza over, whom Mariana promised to take in quality of her companion, till she could otherwise provide for her.

When the rest of the company were retired, Carlos drew our priest aside, and again discoursed him upon the subject of renouncing his religion; a matter which he did not chuse to touch upon before the guardian of Miss Sidney, who was himself a zealous catholic, and had not approved of his own abjuration, though he had too much honour and good sense to let such a consideration influence him in every other respect as to his dealings or connexions with any man. But to proceed. The new convert used such weighty instances with his friend, and urged him so strongly to complete the good work of reformation which was begun in him, that the other at length yielded, convinced as he was before of the validity of the arguments, so far as they related to religion itself, and only disliking a formal abju-

abjuration, which he now, however, was brought to agree to for the sake of property, and for the benefit and example of it.

As soon as he returned home, he wrote to Ireland, to invite over his sister, whose lady was by this time dead, and she placed at an acquaintance's, where she was once more upon her own hands; she therefore readily enough closed in with the proposal, and came over with all expedition to England, where her brother, not without some impatience, waited to receive her.

When she heard of his change, she at first could scarcely believe it to be real; and when she was assured of it, blamed him for what she then called *apostatizing*, though she has since learned to give it a better term, and is as fully convinced of every truth, which the church of England contends for, as any of its members. In short, she is brought to consent to all but *abjuring*, and is a protestant in every thing but the name.

The month passed quickly away, and the day fixed for Don Carlos's marriage arrived, when our Gaspar and Eliza were
among

among the principal of the invited guests; and beheld this virtuous and accomplished pair, joined by an union as happy as ever blessed mortals. The transported Carlos led his tender-beauteous bride, arrayed in shining white, the native garb of innocence, to the altar, where he received, in the sight of Heaven, this its best gift, and sealed the contract with a fervent kiss, whilst her lovely cheeks outblushed the roses which glowed amongst the maiden Jessamines that adorned her bosom. From thence he, through an applauding, though an envying crowd, conducted her to a coach that waited for them, and presently conveyed them to his house, where all the guests within were made partakers of an elegant repast; and the poor without were not forgotten, but had cause given them to join in blessing the festivity of that happy day.

It was the third evening before all the feasting was concluded, and the friends of the bride and bridegroom permitted to depart to their respective habitations. When Gaspar would have done so, he was prevented

vented: that very week his patron had discharged him, being about to make the tour of Europe, and thought he might well do without the incumbrance of one who had incapacitated himself to serve in the office for which he was chosen. — “From henceforward,” said Don Carlos, “I am your patron, and you shall remain here with me, as well as your sister does with my Mariana. For *her*, I believe, I have already found a provision; as for *you*, I must inform you, that I have turned all my fortunes and effects in Spain into ready money, with part of which I have bought estates, and intend to settle in England, where, if you chuse to stay, you shall be always with me when you please in the country; and I have a little tenement, that I will bestow upon you entirely, to which, as a pleasant solitude, you may retire in the summer. Being already consecrated, you may, when you please, assist my domestic chaplain: I believe your sister will marry soon, and we shall all live as one family. We will assume English

names

“ names and manners, that we may not
 “ be remarked ; and by useful studies,
 “ and innocent amusements, we will di-
 “ vide our time, which may thus steal
 “ gently away ; and I promise myself we
 “ shall be enabled to enjoy as much do-
 “ mestic felicity as generally falls to the
 “ lot of mortals in this sublunary state.”

Gaspar joyfully accepted the proposal ;
 and his sister stayed with Mariana till an
 opportunity was found of recommending
 her to the notice of a lady, equally re-
 markable for her high rank, and her
 amiable qualities, who, in pure benevo-
 lence of heart, settled upon her a yearly
 stipend ; but would by no means remove
 her from a family where she lived in such
 harmony and felicity. Soon after this
 event, they all retired into the north
 of England, where they continue to taste
 that peace and tranquillity, which a life
 of toils has taught them with a higher re-
 lish to enjoy, and to bless the all-bounteous
 hand that dispenses it.

FINIS.



